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# A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

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NO. 6.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL HINTS.

Xmas.  
Save labor.  
Work to win.  
Merry Xmas.  
Stop to think.  
Push business.  
Good bye, 1899.  
Do right by all.  
Kill the drones.  
Be up and doing.  
New century next.  
Poor, poor turkey.  
Turn the new leaf.  
Do your work well.  
Close the accounts.  
Keep your promise.  
Cater to your trade.  
Resolve to improve.  
All breeds are good.  
Hens are mechanics.  
Pluck furnishes grit.  
Study your capacity.  
Are the houses warm?  
Gobble will be gobbled.  
Make a good beginning.  
Mind your own business.  
Remember A FEW HENS.  
The hen is a philosopher.  
Have matters convenient.  
Don't overreach yourself.  
Good management counts.  
The business hen is pretty.  
Be interested in your work.  
Hurried work is not the best.  
How'd ye like to be the turk?  
"Blues" is a cowardly disease.  
Discharge the lazy man or hen.

## Experimental Farm Notes.

*New Scratching Shed House—M. M. S. Poultry Fencing—New Signs—New Stock—The Egg Yield and Prices for the Month of October.*

Since last issue of A FEW HENS we have put up another 3-pen scratching shed house, with double runs of 50 feet each. This house is constructed on the same plan our other scratching shed house was built, viz., scratching shed 10x7; roosting part 6x7 feet. In our other house we used Cabot's Quilting between the double walls of the roosting rooms, and were very well satisfied with the results. In this house we will use the best quality of Neponset paper and believe it will give equally as good service as did the Quilting. The price of both is practically the same.

We find these scratching shed houses cost us complete \$2 per running foot. That includes lumber, hardware, paper, paint, wire netting for the double runs, labor, etc. It completes the job.

We have used houses built on the scratching shed plan for about seven years, and every year we seem to become more strongly attached to them. They are the easiest ventilated, are the most roomy, and are the best houses for fowls that must be confined during the winter, of any style we have yet seen. They are business houses for business hens. They always look neat, are comfortable and inviting to the hens, and the fowls show off in them to better advantage.

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Heretofore we used the ordinary 2-inch mesh wire netting for fencing, but for the runs of this new house we thought we would try the M. M. S. poultry fencing so extensively advertised. We secured a lot from James S. Case, Colchester, Conn., the eastern agent. With the ordinary mesh fencing we always had more or less trouble by the wire sagging. Despite the greatest care there seemed always to be something unsatisfactory. We must say for the M. M. S. fencing that it is not only more easily put up, but there is no sag nor bag to it when up. It is always straight and in place. Besides, a less number of posts

are required—one for every rod of fencing being sufficient. We vote it by far the neatest, most durable and practical poultry fencing on the market. We will have more to say about this fencing as we become better acquainted with it.

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We have had a number of new signs conspicuously posted on the farm, such as "Shut the gate," "Beware of the dog," and "Keep out of the yards." These orders are imperative. "Shut the gate" sign is more particularly intended for teamsters who bring us supplies. They invariably leave the gate open, or at least did before we put up the sign. A neglect of this kind always caused us trouble, principally by stray dogs getting on the premises and scaring the chickens. We cannot afford to have our stock scared.

"Beware of the dog" is for the protection of the visitor. That sign is a warning. It means, stop at the house before you venture past the gate of the plant. We have been bothered considerably by strangers walking right ahead and coming into close quarters with the dog. That sign is the danger signal.

"Keep out of the yards" are signs for our protection. We are keeping poultry more for profit than for show. Hens are naturally shy of strangers. To look at them from the walk does not startle the birds one bit—they are used to that. But the moment a stranger walks into the runs they become afraid. A scare to a hen hurts her egg yield. Besides we have had visitors walk in the yards to more closely look at the fowls and then come out and leave the gates open. Carelessness in that respect might mix up our pens. So this order must be enforced. We are glad to have visitors, and will do all in our power to make their visits both pleasant and profitable, but our rules must be obeyed.

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As we stated in a previous issue, we did not hatch many Brahmas the past season. We sold too many eggs in the early part of the egg season, so we were compelled to buy some stock. In this we were very fortunate. Our Brahma matings for next year will be something like this:



One pen of the cream of last year's hens, mated to a cockerel of our own breeding, no relation to the females.

One pen of grand pullets just purchased of I. K. Felch & Son, Natick, Mass. These are from a special pen of heavy layers, producing a rich dark brown egg. These pullets will also be mated to a cockerel also purchased from Felch—and no relation to the pullets.

Two pens of pullets, John L. Cost stock, purchased from Woodward M. Poffenberger, Bakersville, Maryland, mated to cockerels of our own breeding. These pullets (28 in number) are extra fine stock, as pretty as pictures, and of that noble Brahma build. (By-the-way, Mr. Poffenberger has a few more pullets like them for sale. See his advertisement in this issue.)

One pen of pullets selected from our own hatching this year, from the special mating of a Silberstein cockerel on Felch pullets, and now mated to a Felch cockerel just purchased from I. K. Felch & Son.

For alternate males we will use a Cost cockerel, also choice cockerels of our own breeding.

This will give us five large yards of as fine Brahma stock as one could wish to have, and we hope to have an excellent showing.

Besides our Brahmas we will have three pens of White Wyandottes and two pens of White Plymouth Rocks, all carefully selected and mated.

In Rhode Island Reds we will have about 20 pullets (both single and rose comb) but these will be used solely for experimental purposes.

Our White Leghorns, as noted in last issue, will be kept on a separate farm, where no other breed is kept. This farm will carry in the neighborhood of 200 head of breeders.

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During the month of October our Wyandottes laid 80 eggs; Brahmas, 27 eggs; Leghorns, 70 eggs; White Plymouth Rocks, 12 eggs. This made a total of 189 eggs for the month, or a daily average of 6 eggs. The highest number laid in one day was 17, and the lowest number 1.

Of eggs retailed, the highest price we received during the month was 24 cents, and the lowest 22 cents; average 23 cts.

### Eggs and Egg Farming.

*Cold Storage Eggs—Feeding for Egg Yield—Analysis of Eggs—Good Laying—Culls Best Layers—Fresh Eggs in Germany—Dark vs. White Shelled Eggs—A Curiosity.*

One day a feast and the next a famine, will upset any flock of layers, and especially pullets.

Egg essentials—Cleanliness, warmth, dryness, fresh air and water, and plenty of good food.

It becomes quite a study to keep pullets laying regularly. A regular system of feeding has much to do with it.

When pullets begin to lay they seem quite uncertain. Some will lay regularly every other day, and some only twice a week.

Moving layers from coop to coop simply upsets their habits, and they begin all over again to study the new situation, and during this time they usually stop laying.

*Auntie* (to Elsie, who has been out to look for eggs)—“Have you found any, dear?” *Elsie*—“No, not one; the hens are all standing about doing nothing.”—*Judy*.

Cold storage eggs are coming out very freely and within the past fortnight have served to depress the market. Large shipments have been made from the west to New York and other eastern centers. Refrigerator concerns aim to dispose of the bulk of their stock before the winter is too far advanced.

Feeding for a continuous egg yield requires good judgment, and a great deal of careful watching in order to keep the flock in prime condition. A good laying strain of any breed, when in prime condition, will lay eggs regularly like clock work, but it requires care and constant watching to keep the machinery in order. Neglect and slifflessness will upset the whole flock, and ruin what might have been made a good paying investment, writes E. O. Roessle, in *Country Gentleman*.

F. Haskins, So. Cortland, N. Y., writes: “In the October number of A FEW HENS, R. J. Venn writes as though your White Wyandottes laid white shelled eggs. If so, I would like to know it, for all of that breed around here lay a colored egg.” In reply we would say that we have a number of hens that lay a pure white egg, but have more that lay a tinted to a dark-brown color. During the past year we have had many calls for *white* White Wyandotte eggs. It is a fact that our best layers were those that produced a white egg.

*Texas Farm and Ranch* says: “Take a lot of purebred fowls and have an expert judge score them for symmetry, and it will be found that those scoring lowest will prove the best layers. Just as in dairy cows, it is the lank, angular, and loosely articulated that produce the largest quantity of milk. Of course breeders of exhibition fowls and those who edit papers to please breeders (and advertisers) will denounce this idea as disloyal to the fancy, and untrue in fact. Nevertheless, it is true, and some of the famous breeders in the world indorse it.”

According to a large number of analysis made of American eggs at the various agricultural experiment stations, an egg on an average, weighs 2 ounces, and has the following percentage of composition: Shell, 10.5; water, 6.6; fat, 9.3; and ash, 0.9. A side of beef contains on an average about the same percentage of protein but a larger percentage of fat. Eggs belong to the nitrogenous group of foods, and would naturally and quite properly be combined in the diet with material supplying carbohydrates (sugar and starch) such as cereals, potatoes, etc. The *Oregon Agriculturist* says: “A plan for supplying the public with fresh eggs is being tried in Germany in the hopes that it will increase the demand for a strictly fresh article.

Egg depots are to be established in the principal cities, at which the quality and freshness of the eggs will be guaranteed. For every bad egg the purchaser is entitled to get 15 good ones. Every poultryman has to mark all eggs which he sends to one of these depots, in such a way that they can be traced back to him, and if it is found that he furnished bad eggs as fresh ones he will not be allowed to sell to the depots.”

N. A. Taylor, Hyde Park, N. Y., writes A FEW HENS as follows: “I began as an amateur March 12th, this year, with 6 hens, mixed, and bought another in May, and a cock in June. The 7 hens in 7 months (March 12 to October 12) laid 558 eggs, and produced 14 lots of chicks, from 3 to 15 in a hatch. I now have 78 chicks, part of which are purebred (from purchased eggs), and the rest mixed. They have been kept in a run 10 x 85 feet, with no grass; coop, 4 x 4 feet; fed on such food as could be secured at a country store, and such green stuff as an ordinary garden produces. I used one pound of condition powder, one pound of chick manna, and about 10 pounds bone and meat.”

At the California Experiment Station the chief object of the examination of eggs was to determine whether there was any basis of fact for the popular opinion that eggs with brown shells have a higher food value than those with white shells. It has been said by some that the brown eggs are richer than the white ones, but this statement is not borne out by a chemical analysis, and the physical examination proves that the main points of superiority, though extremely slight, are possessed by the white eggs. The minute differences that are found between the two groups are exceeded by variation between varieties within the same group. It may be stated that there are practically no differences so far as the food value is concerned.

The hardest task in maintaining a constant and continuous egg yield is to keep the laying stock in prime condition, says Col. E. O. Roessle. This means such a condition of perfect health that the eggs will not only be laid regularly, but that they will be of uniform size, according to the breed laying them. Under such conditions we should have large eggs from Minorcas, Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks and Brahmas. When such breeds lay small eggs, abnormally large eggs with perhaps double yolks, or soft shelled eggs, the stock is out of condition and usually overfat. The eggs will thus be laid irregularly, and many times laying will stop entirely. Layers should be kept active, and activity is induced by short feeding. A hungry hen is usually a good layer.

Mrs. Sarah A. McCallicher, 135 Moss Street, Reading, Pa., brought to the *Eagle* office a curiosity in the shape of a chick not fully matured, which she took from the craw of a hen. On dressing the fowl she found the chick lodged in its craw with the head forcing its way into the gizzard. The chicken had a habit of eating eggs



and in this way it is supposed the little one was formed. Had the fowl not been killed it would not have lived long, as there was a hole eaten into the gizzard by the chick. Quite a number of chicken fanciers called at her home and pronounced it a great curiosity. The main body of the chick was of a yellow hue like the yolk of an egg. Its head was perfectly formed. Mrs. McCallicher placed the gizzard and the chick in a bottle containing alcohol and intends preserving them.

#### About Broilers and Roasters.

*Commission Merchants—The Markets—The Fat Hen—The Broiler—First Dressed Poultry Show—Crossing for Market Poultry—Show Room Impositions—The 1899 Crop.*

Aim to attract attention.  
Stunted stock are hard to fatten.  
See that the market stock is well fattened.  
There is always a good market for good stock.  
Aim to have your stock keep in the front rank.  
You cannot overstock the market with good goods.  
This month is a good time to start the incubators for broilers.  
Farmers could make broiler raising a profitable winter pursuit.  
The White Wyandottes make a plump carcass at almost any age.  
At five weeks old the White Wyandotte makes an ideal squab broiler.  
Poultry should be entirely cold, but not frozen, before being packed.  
Medium sized, plump and neatly dressed carcasses find the first customers.  
For the city market there is nothing between the broiler and the roaster.  
No market poultry plant is complete without the addition of broiler raising.  
Yearling hens mated to vigorous cockerels, give the best eggs for broilers.  
Fall chicks find a good market as roasters in January, February and March.  
It is important, in dressing poultry so as to carry well, to get all the blood out of the body that can possibly be withdrawn.  
All fowls that are to be fattened for sale should be put in a pen by themselves and fed for fattening. Laying and breeding stock will require different kinds of food and in different quantities.  
Poultry commission merchants say that one reason why a great many shippers are disappointed in the prices they receive on good poultry is that they persist in shipping stock of sizes which are not in demand.  
New York will take poultry either scalded or dry picked; Boston wants only dry picked stock; while Chicago wants, for its own trade, only scalded stock in chickens, ducks and geese, but prefers turkeys dry picked.  
P. H. Jacobs says that while commission merchants, like men engaged in other pursuits, are not perfect, yet the merchants, for their own welfare, will cheerfully encourage the farmer when the latter endeavors to supply them with "choice" poultry.

With all the abuse that can be heaped upon a fat hen because she does not lay, she brings more in the market than any other kind of poultry except the turkey, and at times the difference in favor of the turkey is very little.

The commission merchant does not fix the price. He can only obtain what his customers allow. When the market is full the customers have a larger stock from which to select, and they always select the best, leaving the second-class stock to be sold at hazardous prices.

Remember the most attractive broiler is one that does not show dark pin feathers, has a small comb, no feathers on its legs, is in plump condition, and yellow color to skin and legs. There should be small, sinewy bones, large bundles of muscles to hide them, and plenty of meat without fat.

*Farm-Poultry* says the first real dressed poultry show in this country, of which we have any knowledge, was held in Providence, R. I., in 1894, under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel Cushman, to whom justly belongs a large share of credit for his efforts in the direction of better market poultry.

Thos. F. Jager, in *Practical Poultryman*, says the broiler industry is considered by men who have experimented in this line long enough to be entitled to a standing, as one of the main sources of profit in the market poultry business; especially, if the turning out of birds can be accomplished prior to the hand-raised stock, as furnished the cities by the farmers or small land owners.

Mr. Jager says that the experiments of the last five years have convinced him that a crossing of two breeds, generally speaking, is the best and only in the latter part of winter. Pure breeds are able to furnish more cash profit in some cases, in being able to be disposed of as egg machines, but as the average broiler raiser does not intend to furnish breeding stock if an opportunity should present itself, this advantage might as well not be mentioned.

George H. Pollard says very few breeds will stand the impositions forced by show room methods, and render any good account of themselves as dressed specimens. Probably over 90 per cent of the best market poultry (that which commands the highest price in the open market for first-class table use) is not pure bred. This does not prove that the pure bred fowl is not the best fowl for this purpose, but it does prove there is something wrong with the conditions under which it is produced. "Broiler raising continues to engage the minds of every market man, be he situated on a two-acre tract, or a large well equipped poultry yard. The setbacks which this industry had to see from time to time, mainly caused by the inexperience of the beginner, or the desire of companies to increase their output, thereby in a good many cases reducing the living chances of the individual birds—all these setbacks, I say again, have not been able to completely down this great branch" says Mr. Jager.

The first essential, continues Mr. Jager, in order to succeed as a broiler man or woman—for this branch holds great promises for the gentle sex—is to have good healthy breeding stock. That means stock not hampered or forced while young, or where the parents have been inbred to get a certain lacing or tip to the feather. The broiler man does not care a rap for the plumage condition of his breeding stock, as long as the natural vigor and stamina and characteristics to impart to the offspring plumpness of body are found.

*Poultry Keeper* says September is not too soon to hatch chicks for broilers that are to be gotten into market by Christmas. If the incubators are to be started in September the chicks will be out in October, which leaves them just about the proper length of time to make growth by Christmas. The strongest competition will be in frozen stock, but buyers will always purchase the broiler in preference to

**WHITE WYANDOTTES**—100 strong, vigorous cockerels for sale. Wh. Indian Games, Lt. Brahma Bantams, Clear Grit, Meat Meal, Oyster Shells. I have the best of the above goods, and can please you. Send for circular and price-list. D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

## Maplewood Farm Poultry

Woodstock, Vt.

Young Breeding Stock now on sale. Highest quality. White Wyandottes, Golden Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks, males, \$3.00 to \$5.00. Females, \$2.00 to \$3.00. Eggs of best strains for hatching, \$2.00 per sitting. Incubator eggs, \$6 per 100. Send orders now for present or future delivery.



PHOTO. FROM LIFE.

## Silver Wyandotte Cock

1st Hagerstown, 1898.

1st West Chester, 1899.

A few Cockerels, sons of above, for sale.

WM. H. CHILD, Hatboro, Pa.

## Make Your Hens Pay.

You can't afford to feed hens all winter without some adequate returns. Hens will lay just as well in winter as in summer if they are fed properly.

**EVAN'S...**  
**Vegetable and Root CUTTERS**

come to the relief of all poultrymen at this point. They cut all roots and vegetables into fine poultry food. Relished by all fowls and is profitable as to results. Beats dried clover, clover meal, &c. Machines greatly improved this season. Remember, it will double the egg this winter. Write for catalogue prices, &c. EVANS MFG. CO., Dept. R. 231 River St., Detroit, Mich.



the late chick that has been kept in cold storage. It is true the prices will not be as high as in the spring, but the cost of raising the broilers in the fall will be much less, and then profits will be fully as large.

The Sprague Commission Co., of Chicago, give this report of the poultry crop of 1899: "From the numerous reports received we believe the crop of chickens will be smaller than last year, certainly not any larger; possibly about 10 per cent less than last year. Some of the reports indicate material increases, say from 10 to 25 per cent more than last year, and some of the returns report a shrinkage of from 25 to 50 per cent, which in some instances seem to be a little sensational, but might, nevertheless, be a fact. After a careful study of the reports, however, it is fair to presume that the crop will be slightly short of an average one. Had not the very cold and late spring been unfavorable for the hatching of the eggs, and killed off so many chickens, the crop would have been a large one. The high prices ruling the past spring for eggs, kept farmers from holding as many eggs for hatching purposes, and they marketed stock closer than they would have done had prices been low. Then, too, the price of chickens has averaged higher than in former years, and this induced freer selling and closer marketing of stock than if chickens had been cheap.

#### Pointers on Food and Feeding.

*Necessary Egg Foods—Feeding Peanuts*  
—Pointers on Food—Fattening for Market—"Shorts" and "Wheat Bran"  
—Hulled Broom Corn Seed—Danger in Young Green Oats—Flat Board vs. Trough for Feeding.

Remember the necessary egg foods, mixed with exercise, are:

- Grit.
- Wheat.
- Charcoal.
- Cornmeal.
- Middlings.
- Pure water.
- Clover hay.
- Vegetables.
- Green bone.
- Oyster shell.
- Ground oats.
- Scalded oats.
- Linseed meal.
- Meat scraps or meal.

Study conditions.

Don't feed too rich a mash.

Feed according to appetites.

Active fowls are always hungry.

Meat and bone keeps best unground.

It is *how* you feed more than *what* you feed.

Wholesome food is always a source of economy.

Smutty or mildewed grain is especially dangerous.

The peanut recommended for poultry food is the *little* Spanish.

Nothing like whole wheat to bring those pullets into a laying condition.

A great deal of poultry is marketed without having been fed especially for it. A very important point in feeding poultry for the market is to feed regularly. No fowl can keep comfortable at night when fed mash for supper. It digests too quickly.

Fowls love to scratch among barn floor sweepings, and gather considerable food thereby.

On closing the house at night, scatter a few handfuls of grain in the scratching sheds for the early risers.

Remember the best bill of fare will be useless without a constant supply of pure, fresh water on hand.

Feeding oats for fattening is a very good practice, and they should be ground and fed with milk, either sweet or sour.

Where grain is not scattered among litter, it should be broadcast, so the fowls will have to move about to get it. Dumping the grain in one spot and having the fowls fight over it, overfeeds the strong and underfeeds the weak of the flock.

A correspondent in *American Fancier* says peanuts, as a poultry food, excel corn, wheat or oats for laying hens as well as growing chicks.

The man who thinks he can save anything by feeding damaged grain to his poultry, will sooner or later find he has made a serious mistake.

The great cause of all this argument against the *morning* mash, is that evil results have followed feeding it too heavily. It should be practically a half meal.

Impure food is always dangerous for any kind of live stock. It will quickly induce indigestion, which will rapidly be followed by chronic dyspepsia and other ailments.

Nitrogenous food costs more than carbonaceous, but the former turns the most profit in more eggs, larger eggs, better fertility, better offspring, and an improved condition generally.

Hulled broom corn seed is said to be a good grain food for chicks or hens. The unhulled seed is too fibrous to be relished by the hens, and should be used only as a light noon feed in litter.

During fattening, feeding three times a day at first will be found a very good practice, and after the first 10 days they should be fed only twice a day, and at the end of the second 10 days they can be fed about all they will eat.

In case, while fattening, a sick bird should be noticed, remove it from the lot at once. Usually a sick bird, taken out and put where it can get no food will soon be ready to be returned to the fattening pen.

The bulk of the fattening food on the farm is corn, and it is a good food for that purpose, if it is not fed to such an extent as to cause indigestion, thereby injuring the ability of the fowl to do its best toward getting ready for the market.

Editor Robinson says: Strictly speaking, "shorts" and "wheat bran" are not the same thing. The names, "shorts" and "bran" are often applied indifferently and carelessly, and often the products designated by one name or the other contain both substances.

A flat board, however wide or long, is not a good place to put soft feed for

fowls, says *Texas Farm and Ranch*. They will scratch it off, one of the first things they do. A V-shaped trough, with a 3-inch strip over it lengthwise is far better. If properly made chickens can't get into it to scratch and thus the chief aim is attained.

The *Southern Poultry Journal* says: "We once brought so-called cholera by running hens on young, green oats, and feeding nothing but shelled oats. We cured them by taking them off the oats and feeding corn and grit. As an exclusive food, there is nothing that will kill more fowls than shelled oats; no other food will bring on the so-called cholera as quick."

It will require about 6 weeks to fatten chickens for market, and if a farmer only once tries fattening the fowls sold, and notes the difference in price obtained, he will not again catch up whatever he can of the supply of the farm and sell, without having first prepared them for the market, says *Iowa Homestead*. This is a very common practice on the farm, and one that is fast becoming apparent as a mistake.

Shells and ground bone must be provided, as well as a supply of meat, says *American Stock-Keeper*. If a sufficient number of hens are kept, a green bone mill is an excellent investment, as green bones with a large amount of meat and gristle can be purchased at a merely nominal price at almost any meat market. This is a most excellent feed, but care must be exercised not to feed too much, especially at first, as it is likely to scour the hens.

**COCKERELS** for sale. S. C. W. Leg., S. C. Black Min., W. Wyan. Good stock. J. S. Buchan, Andover, Mass.

**FINE** laying strains B. Minorcas, B. Langshans, G. Wyandottes. Cockerel each kind. \$1, \$2. Mrs. C. M. Bisbee, 73 Clarkson St., Dorchester, Mass.


**W. ROCK** Cockerels; also pen of W. C. B. Polish cheap, or trade to W. Rock pullets. E. Marquand, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Standard points and utility combined. Stock for sale. Eggs in season. Young Belgian Hares \$3.00 per pair. CUMMAQUID POULTRY FARM, Box 123, Cummaquid, Mass.

## FARM FOR SALE.

### A GREAT BARGAIN.

Two and one-half miles to town of ten thousand. School nearby. 1400 peach trees; 1200 baskets last year. Not many this year, but good crop next year. Put \$100 in your pocket and come and secure this bargain. Nice place for poultry; fine markets. Good buildings. 16 acres land; we live on same street. S. N. FOLLANSBEE, Leominster, Mass., Proprietor of Bonniebrae Poultry and Fruit Farm. All kinds of poultry for sale.



Ninety-six eggs hatched out of a possible hundred, is the unrivalled record of the Prairie State Incubator. More scientifically constructed, more nearly automatic in its operation than any other incubator. The

**Prairie State INCUBATOR**

practically runs itself. Full descriptions and pictures in catalog; biggest book on incubators ever given away—50 colored plates—free.

**PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR COMPANY,**  
Homer City, Pa.



## Notes in Passing.

*News in the Market Poultry World—  
Hints that May be of Value—Para-  
graphs from Our Exchanges.*

If you should ask me for a dollar bill  
For foreign missions or the like of that,  
I'll bet you'd get it, for I've tried to kill  
A plate of mother's pudding! Where's my hat?  
I'm gonter fill that woodbox while the spell  
Of that there pudding lasts—Jest take it down—  
That recipe will serve you mighty well—  
One cup of sugar, roasted till it's brown;  
Take milk and cream, two honest gills of each—  
The best old Jersey gives, don't want no dregs.  
Then when ye hear them Black Minorcas  
screech,  
Run out an' pick four of their biggest eggs.  
Warm up your milk an' cream to boiling heat.  
Pour on your browned-up sugar—let it stand  
Until it's all dissolved, then take an' beat  
Them eggs an' third cup sugar with a hand  
Steady an' light then, when the other cools,  
Pour 'em together like ye would a cake,  
Give 'em a stir, then wash up all the tools,  
An' shove it in the oven door to bake.  
Caramel pudding—that's the name we give  
To that concoction, an' you'll say, I guess,  
You never did know halfway how to live  
Until you got your spoon inside that mess.  
—Rural New-Yorker.

Garfield said: "I would rather have an ounce of pluck than a pound of luck." Working hens, like working people, are the healthiest and easiest to get along with.

Editor McReynolds says it is the man or woman behind the hen, rather than the breed, that makes success.

The farmer's family should consume more poultry and eggs and less pork. They are among the most valuable foods.

Fall and early winter is the best time to buy breeding stock. Higher prices will have to be paid after they have been wintered.

By making the hen house comfortable the feed that otherwise would be required to combat the rigors of winter serves to produce eggs.

It costs less to keep the hens warm by closing up the cracks and crevices of the hen house than to give them an extra allowance of food.

The exercise of intelligence, industry, common sense, patience and eternal vigilance will insure successful poultry raising on the farm, says *Farm, Field and Fireside*.

Texas *Farm and Ranch* says the merchant always considers the wants of his customers in laying in a stock. That is sensible. Poultry raisers rarely do so, and that is not sensible.

If town poultrymen can make the flock in winter a source of considerable profit, why should not the same thing be done by the farmer, who is surrounded with far more favorable conditions?

Texas *Farm and Ranch* says a good plan to prevent fowls crowding on the roost is to bore holes the whole length of the perch, 10 inches apart for large, and 8 for small breeds, and insert plain wooden pegs 4 or 5 inches high.

Judge G. O. Brown was again honored at the Baltimore chrysanthemum show by having a handsome, deep pink incurved Japan seedling of almost perfect globe shape named after him. Mr. Brown is an honorary member of the Gardener's Club.

When the scrubbiest of roosters  
Undertakes to go and knock  
Half the feathers off the Game cock,  
Strutting in your neighbor's flock,  
He will have his hour of triumph,  
Though defeat's electric shock  
May mark him like a butcher  
For, at last, he's blooded stock.  
—Rural New-Yorker.

The *Southern Poultry Journal* says some one said, "Scrub treatment of your fowls will bring scrub results." No matter if your stock is thoroughbred or what breed you have, it must have the proper care and food to get good returns. The best paying breed is the one that is best cared for.

"I do not believe in artificial heat under any circumstances," says E. O. Roessle, in *Country Gentleman*. "A flock kept in a house without heat will thrive better and remain decidedly healthier. My mortality for several years, during the coldest weather, has been so slight as not to be remembered, and the result in egg production has been up to my best expectations."

Henry L. Allen, in *National Stockman* says a pen of fowls is in itself a rather insignificant matter, but put it in the hands of your boy it may result in his becoming an up-to-date progressive farmer and breeder, instead of an underpaid clerk or mechanic, drawn to the city simply because life and the farm are not made attractive to him.

Never cut a fowl's wings by clipping off the quills, as it makes them look unsightly. The best way to cut their wings, says an exchange, to prevent flying, is to spread the wing out and cut the feather portion from the quill. This will leave bare quills, and when the wing is closed it rarely shows that the wing has been tampered with. Only one wing should be cut.

We are getting to the point where most poultrymen will admit that all really fine poultry has to be more or less inbred. We use the expression really fine poultry; that is, not only fine in itself, but will reproduce itself and better, says *Arkansas Poultryman*. Therefore, if you are buying "eggs for hatching" from really fine stock, you are buying eggs from more or less inbred stock.

Zeal in the prosecution of his business is the characteristic of the successful poultry breeder, says *National Fancier's Poultryman*. Nothing prevents him from having the best of everything that his fowls require, whether it be food or care. Their every want is promptly met. He is an enthusiast. His poultry are his pets. He rides his hobby without a sense of weariness, and success is measured out to him as the just reward of his zeal.

"The scratching shed house is becoming very popular, and I consider it a good



## Eggs For Christmas

are worth about double what they are at other times. This is so because eggs are scarce in the winter. Eggs can be produced in winter as well as summer if the hens are properly fed. Sure results follow the feeding every morning of a nice warm mash of

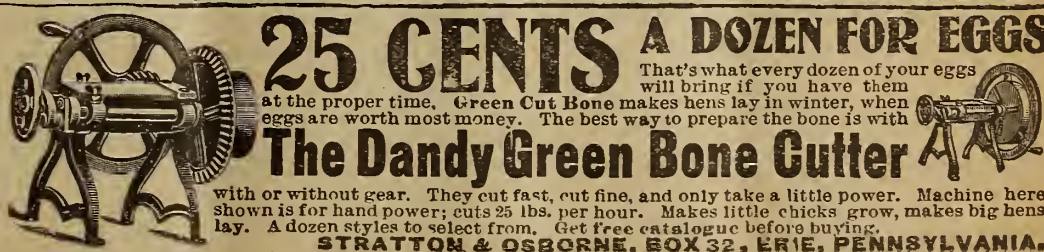
## THE H-O CO'S. POULTRY FOOD.

It just about doubles the egg product and does more. It makes broilers grow fast and mature early; makes early and strong layers of the pullets; imparts vigor and working force to mature hens; shortens up the moulting season and produces a fine coat of feathers. Of special value in feeding show fowls.

### H-O CO'S SCRATCHING FOOD

is just the thing to mix with the litter. Insures plenty of exercise. These foods are grain products combined in correct proportions for best results.  
Write for sample, circulars, prices, &c.

**THE H-O COMPANY.**  
58 FULTON ST.  
BUFFALO, N.Y.



## 25 CENTS A DOZEN FOR EGGS

That's what every dozen of your eggs will bring if you have them at the proper time. Green Cut Bone makes hens lay in winter, when eggs are worth most money. The best way to prepare the bone is with

## The Dandy Green Bone Cutter

with or without gear. They cut fast, cut fine, and only take a little power. Machine here shown is for hand power; cuts 25 lbs. per hour. Makes little chicks grow, makes big hens lay. A dozen styles to select from. Get free catalogue before buying.  
**STRATTON & OSBORNE, BOX 32, ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.**



idea, provided it is properly built," writes Capt. E. O. Roessle. "This consists of a roosting room and a scratching shed adjoining. The shed usually has an adjustable front, which can be left open or shut up entirely as the weather demands. This plan gives a freer space for the hens to work in, and has the advantages of inducing exercise, which is so very important, especially in winter."

Of all the good breeds we now have, none seem so popular for commercial purposes as the Plymouth Rocks, the Wyandottes, the Brahmas, the Langshans, the Leghorns, and the Minorcas. In these breeds we have a supply of just such material as the market demands—plenty of eggs, large eggs, white or brown eggs; fine broilers, splendid spring chickens, prime roasting fowls. Almost any color is obtained in the combination, and the most particular judge of symmetry can in these breeds find an ideal.

Duck is the only fowl that is better, when the test of the table is applied, than a fat young guinea, says Texas *Farm and Ranch*. Some object that the flesh is dark. What difference does color make? Are not beets red, potatoes white, spinach green? Do people object to these because the color does not suit, because their legs are not yellow? If the flesh of a guinea is toothsome, succulent and nutritious, let it be dark or light, or any other color—eat it and be thankful.

"I never believed in cheap or flimsy structures for any live stock. If the stock is good, the house should be fit to keep them in," says Capt. E. O. Roessle. Well-built houses are the cheapest in the end, requiring but little repairing. In our Northern climate a hen house should be made, above all things, warm and dry. During the summer the house is not of so much importance, as the flock uses it only at night. But in the cold months shelter from the winds and storms is the point to be considered; therefore, build for them warm houses.

C. P. Reynolds gives this method of clipping fowls' wings: The fowl should be taken on the left arm, the legs being firmly grasped by the left hand. By taking the other and opening the wing and closing two or three times it will be seen that the outside feathers fold in out of sight when the wing is at rest. This will be noticeable even to one who knows little or nothing about poultry. These feathers are the ones that should be cut, which can be done very easily with a pair of sharp shears in the right hand. This clipping is generally as effectual as though the whole wing full of feathers was removed.

It is with chickens as with all other living things—if you want to get the best out of them you must manage them sympathetically, says a correspondent in *American Agriculturist*. Enter into their feelings as far as you can, and try to give them what their nature craves. Anyone watching them can soon learn their tastes. They are very emotional and respond quickly to outside influences. It is a delight

to minister to their wants when once you have become acquainted with them. They will soon learn to run to meet you, and show their eagerness and delight in a thousand ways. If you care for them yourself, and watch them with intelligence, you will learn to appreciate them as living creatures, each with his own disposition and way of life.

P. H. Jacobs says "the so-called fancy business must be entirely separated from breeding pure breeds. Instead of inflicting the breeds with foolish and useless requirements each breed should be up to a simple standard which imposes just enough on the breed to guarantee its purity, and to draw a line of distinction between it and some similar breed. Some of the breeds have nearly one-third of the standard points placed on the head and legs (including the several parts thereof), which happen to be just the portions of the fowl that are cut off and thrown away by the cook. The main object should be to make no imposition on the breed that does not encourage the selection of the best, and if something 'fancy' is wanted give it a separate class."

Which Was Created First—

## The Hen or the Egg?



Poultrymen may differ in their opinion as to this question, but all agree that green cut bone prepared by Webster & Hannum Bone Cutter will double the egg yield. Your ration should contain at least 20 per cent of green cut bone—not dried bone—for best results.

We have not space here to tell you all the reasons why our bone cutters are better than all others, but we guarantee it to be so or return your money.

Stearns Clover Cutters and Grit Crushers are the best and cheapest.

Our booklet tells all about these machines and how to make poultry pay. Write to-day.

E. C. STEARNS & CO., Box 6, Syracuse, N. Y.

## EGGS THAT HATCH



The "hatchableness" of eggs depends directly upon the food furnished the hens. Vigorous fowls lay eggs full of vitality. Such eggs are sure to hatch strong, healthy chicks. Keep your breeding hens in good condition by feeding

## PIONEER CLOVER MEAL

It is the greatest egg producer known, because it furnishes hens the best elements of summer food. Our process preserves the color, aroma and all the essential oils natural to clover. It not only produces fertile eggs, but is the best for young chicks; stimulates a rapid growth and sweet, abundant flesh. 100 lbs., \$2.00; 50 lbs., \$1.00. Send for free book and sample.

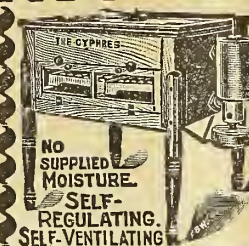
The Bennett & Millett Co., Box 11, Gouverneur, N. Y.

## POULTRY SUPPLIES

Mica Crystal Grit, - - - Per 100 lbs. \$ .75  
Crushed Oyster Shell, Per 100 lb. bag, .75  
Ground Bone, - - - Per 100 lb. bag, 2.00  
Pike's Lice Destroyer, per gallon, - - .75

We make lower prices for large quantities.  
Send for Descriptive Circulars.  
SHIP US YOURS. **POULTRY AND EGGS**  
SPRAGUE COMMISSION CO.,  
218 South Water St. Chicago, Ill.

# INCUBATORS



The Cyphers.  
One Style Only,  
**OUR BEST**

Warranted to last 10 years without repairs and to out-hatch during three trials any other incubator—bar none; this or your money back.

BUILT FOR BUSINESS—SOLD ON HONOR. 16-page illustrated circular and price list FREE. Poultry Manual and Catalogue No. Bk 29 (160-pages, 8x11 in.) entitled, "How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators" sent postpaid for 15c. in stamps—worth dollars. Address nearest office.  
**CYPHERS INCUBATOR CO.,**  
BOSTON, MASS. WAYLAND, N.Y. CHICAGO, ILL.

**MY Buff Rocks and Wyandottes have won many prizes.** Old and young stock for sale.  
J. F. DAY, Shushan, N. Y.

**A Few Cockerels and Pullets, R. I. Reds, farm raised, good stock.** Pairs \$5 up; trios \$7 and up.  
P. R. PARK, 195 Lowell Street, Methuen, Mass.

## TRAP NEST.

The RECORD has no superior.  
Patent applied for. Send for a circular.  
S. A. McWILLIAMS, Jr.,  
3456 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

## Poultry and Small Fruits

make a great combination to bring in the dollars. You can learn all about the practical side of poultry keeping and fruit growing by reading

## The Fanciers' Review

## and Fruit Grower.

A large, fine, monthly paper, at 50c. a year.

Send us a **DOLLAR** and we will send you

The Fanciers' Review & Fruit Grower, 1 yr.  
A Few Hens, - - - - - 1 yr.  
The Farm Journal, - - - - - 1 yr.  
And any one of our 25-Cent Poultry Books.

Value \$1.50.

Three Sample numbers for 10 cents.

**THE FANCIERS' REVIEW**  
and **FRUIT GROWER**,  
CHATHAM, N. Y.

## "Best Liver Pill Made." Parsons' Pills

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free.  
I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.

*Hens that Pay are hens that Lay,  
Bassler's strains are built that way.*

**Barred Plymouth Rock,  
Buff and White Leghorn**

Cockerels for sale. Improve the laying qualities of your fowls by the introduction of new blood from these choice strains. Price \$3.00 to \$5.00. Address, "Wayside Home" Poultry Yards, W. E. Bassler, Proprietor, Middleburg, N. Y.



**Poultry at the U. S. Stations.**  
*Poultry Work at the Cornell University*  
*—Interesting Experiments—Valuable*  
*Tests of Breeds by North Carolina*  
*Experiment Station.*

A FEW HENS is indebted to the *Practical Poultryman* for the following notes on work in the poultry line in progress at the Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.:

The building in which the fowls are confined are uniform in style, but of varying length. They are frame houses, 10 or 12 feet in width and 5 to 6 feet high on sides, with peak, shingle roof, double boarded on the sides, with board floors, and south windows making them warm, light and dry. Each building is divided into 4 or 6 pens.

Five varieties of fowls are being kept at present, viz.: Barred Plymouth Rocks, S. C. White and Brown Leghorns, Black Minorcas and Buff Cochins, making a selection of size, shape and color suitable for a variety of experiments.

The incubator cellar is under one end of the main building, and contains Prairie State, Pineland, Monarch and Excelsior incubators. These are started about February 1st, or as early as they have eggs, and are run along as needed for illustration.

In the brooder house is a large Prairie State brooder and a pipe system running into a row of pens.

After the regular breeding season is over experiments are tried in crossing for color, and have about 50 half-grown chicks on hand produced in this way. A Brown Leghorn-Barred Rock cross gave some medium sized dark barred chicks, and a Black Minorca-Buff Cochin cross gave chicks of a color hard to describe, neither buff nor black to any extent, but rather a brownish mixture. Their work in this line has not been tabulated yet this season.

Prof. Wing says that his previous experiments had shown that a cross of black and white fowls threw chicks in which white predominated, but this year it was coming out to the contrary. As a rule the chicks produced from a single cross will be of uniform even marking, but a cross of the very same varieties, but of different individuals, may be entirely different.

From this we conclude that to start a new breed from a cross one must begin with a single pen or pair and then breed rather closely in line until the family reaches quite large proportions. All cross bred chicks are disposed of when grown and nearly all hens are fattened and marketed at the age of one year, but this season they are keeping over some Barred Rocks to see if their egg yield will be more or less for the second year.

They have not yet tried the recording nest boxes, as they have no one who can devote his entire time to releasing hens and marking eggs. They have used an old plan by which the hen goes into the nest from the pen and out the other side into an adjoining

enclosure, but this simply shows that she has been through the nest and does not show which egg she laid or whether she laid at all, provided the number of hens and the number of eggs did not tally.

The professor has been experimenting with an English cramming machine, and has made some good gains on young stock, but he is rather skeptical on the question of double weights within a fortnight, as claimed by the people across the water.

\*\*\*

Bulletin No. 167, of the North Carolina Station (Raleigh) is one of the most interesting and valuable poultry bulletins we have had during the year. The subjects handled are "Class vs. Class," "Breed vs. Breed," "Rations for Hens and Methods of Feeding," "Weight of Eggs; they Should Sell by Weight," "Feeding Flavor into Eggs."

Prof. Frank E. Emery, the Agriculturist of the State says in his report:

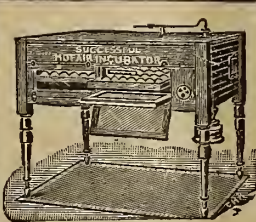
"The poultry interests are scattered throughout the State. No citizen is wealthy in poultry holdings, but no one is too rich or too poor to own and be interested in a flock of chickens. Thus from their presence on every farm and in every hamlet, they are of great importance to all the people,

supplying a large proportion of the best food, and furnishing a remunerative employment for more people perhaps than the so-called manufacturing interests of the State.

"The total income from poultry is very large. It is not easy to measure by statistical yard stick, because it is at hand and in every day use, and very few people put themselves to the trouble of counting the eggs or broilers used at home. Those sold make a long line of figures which compares well with that for any other industry engaged in by the people of South Carolina."

In the experiment "Class vs. Class," the final deductions for the first six months of 1899 are reduced to individual results per month, as nearly as possible. There are only three yards of the Mediterranean class against seven of American and six of the Asiatic fowls.

[Continued on page 92.]



### It Can't Lay Eggs

but it can hatch them better than the hen herself, so she can keep on laying. Our incubator and a flock of hens form a combination that is hard to beat, and one that will pay a better profit than twice the money put into anything else. Our machines are absolutely self regulators and need no attention at night. Chicks come strong and thrifty, free from lice, and have a good start in life. They are improved to date, with safety lamp, egg tray adjuster, nursery, etc. New 150 page catalogue, **PRINTED IN 5 LANGUAGES**, gives full descriptions, illustrations and prices, as well as much valuable information for poultry raisers. Send 6 cents for it.

**DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO.,**  
**Box 423. Des Moines, Iowa.**

## GET RID OF LICE

### The Easiest Way


to get rid of lice and vermin on your fowls is to paint the roosts and nest boxes with


## LEE'S LICE KILLER

the most convenient, the easiest applied, and the most effective insecticide ever inven.ed.

It does away with all dusting, dipping, greasing, and all the fuss and bother usually incident to such operations. Applied with a brush to roosts, it kills all body lice, red mites, etc., and prevents scaly leg in fowls. It is an effective remedy against roaches, ants, bedbugs and all insects on house plants, or fruit trees. Thousands have used it and now sing its praises. Send to Omaha office for **FREE SAMPLE** and book on Vermin and Poultry. 1 qt. 30c; 1/2 gal 50c; 1 gal 75c.

**GEO. H. LEE CO. Omaha, Neb. or 68 Murray St. New York.**






## HOW MANY EGGS

do you get? No matter, you will get twice as many if you feed the hens **Green Cut Bone**. It doubles the egg product in every instance. It makes hens lay in cold weather when eggs are worth the most money. It makes early and long layers of the pullets.

### MANN'S NEW BONE CUTTERS

"beat all." They make the hen business sure and profitable. Mann's Clover Cutter—made entirely of iron and steel. Mann's Swinging Feed Tray beats the hen that wants to scratch or roost in the rough—prevents waste. Mann's Granite Crystal Grit is all Grit—no dirt. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue free.

**F. W. MANN CO. Box 67 MILFORD, MASS.**





# A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY  
**MICHAEL K. BOYER,**

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

**I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,**  
PUBLISHERS.

## ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There is fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL.

A Busy Bid goodbye to 1899, as you Year. welcome the Twentieth Century. The Eighteenth century—filled with all its trials and triumphs—passes out of existence this month, and we are called upon to face a new era. In the century about closing wonderful progress has been made in growth of the poultry industry, and science has demonstrated the fact that it is now much easier and more profitable to engage in poultry raising than it was in the early days.

As we enter the new era, we take with us improved breeds, improved appliances, improved plans. We have brought artificial methods to good use, and demonstrated that just as good, strong, healthy stock can be hatched by incubators, and raised by brooders, as can be turned out by hens. We have made wonderful strides in poultry literature, secured excellent manuals and books, and finely printed and ably edited poultry journals. The strides made have been so marked and complete that we almost wonder if any improvement can be made on them. But there can. We are yet in the infancy of poultry culture.

From present indications, 1900 will be a busy year. There is every reason to expect that in all lines of the business great advances will be made, and A FEW HENS wants to call special attention to that fact. Right now is the time to come forward and advertise your wares to the buying public. You must let the people know what you have for sale, and how good it is.

How can you secure the buyers? By advertising in such mediums as go direct to those who are in the market. One of the very best channels for that purpose is A FEW HENS. We not only have a large circulation, but we arrange the advertising in such a way as to make all announcements prominent. We strive to have each advertiser well taken care of. The result is, advertising in A FEW HENS pays, and that is the reason you will always find our columns well filled.

Now is the time to take out a six months' contract which will carry you right through the most profitable season for advertising. If you have not yet given our columns a trial, do so now. If you have the goods, and really want

business, A FEW HENS can surprise you by good results.

\*\*\*

Great G. F. Schultze, Marion, Ala.: Praise. "I do want to tell you that out of 12 poultry papers I take, A FEW HENS is the compressed essence of hen information."

W. G. Chilcott, Orchard Park, N. Y.: "I am a reader of A FEW HENS and like it very much. All I have against it is it don't come often enough."

Christian P. Amendt, Baltimore, Maryland: "A FEW HENS is a dandy."

Fred A. Snow, Mendon, Mass.: "I think A FEW HENS is the best poultry paper I have ever seen."

Mrs. DeL. Sheplie, Waban, Mass.: "I enjoy A FEW HENS immensely."

H. D. Nutting, Emporia, Kans.: "I must thank you for the fine paper you furnish us. I begin looking for A FEW HENS a week before it is due, and when it is read through wish it was time for another. It is just the thing for busy people. Wish it came every week. Wish it and its editor a long and prosperous life."

Mrs. Chas. H. Hall, Normal, Ills.: "A FEW HENS is a welcome visitor. Would not be without it, for I have seen nothing that can take its place."

Loren Waughtel, Cuba, Ills.: "Your grand and practical gem of the poultry papers is constantly on my desk. For either a novice or veteran it is at the apex."

\*\*\*

Farm- With the November 1st Poultry. issue of *Farm-Poultry*, Boston, that journal has undergone a radical change. Not only is a change of editorial management announced, but the paper has made many changes in its policy. In the editorial announcement, the new quill driver calls attention to the fact that fanciers have been asking that the paper adopt a broader policy, give more attention to matters which concern them, etc.

"Deliberations on the plain business proposition involved resulted finally in the publication of a new paper, smaller than *Farm-Poultry*, exclusively practical—a paper designed especially for beginners and for those, who, from lack of time or of inclination to read full presentations of subjects, prefer that instruction offered them shall be condensed as much as is practicable. The distinct individuality, clean cut style and low price of A FEW HENS, have made that paper very popular, not only among poultry keepers of the classes for whom it is published, but also with readers of poultry papers generally. Its assured success puts the publishers of the two papers in a position to make of *Farm-Poultry* such a paper as its advanced readers and the progressive poultrymen of the country are demanding."

In other words, in the *Farm-Poultry* of today, and the A FEW HENS, the poultry reader will be given full account of all branches of poultry culture. The bad practice of devoting page after page to reprint articles, will be, for the most part, discontinued. Very little matter will be used which has not been prepared especially for the paper. A decided improvement is made in abbrevia-

ting the question and answer department doing away with the printing of the question. It is a plan followed by A FEW HENS, and highly commended by our readers. Discontinuing the "Fowl Hits" corner, and substituting, instead, a liberal market report, is another good feature.

In short, the *Farm-Poultry* of today is such a big improvement and so valuable a journal, that no poultry library will be complete without it. Be sure to look up one of the club offers we give in this issue.

\*\*\*

A Pleasant The editor of A FEW Visit. HENS enjoyed a very pleasant visit from Mr.

Robinson, the new editor of *Farm-Poultry*, the latter part of last month. It was our first introduction, personally, to Mr. Robinson, although our acquaintance by correspondence extended back for some time. We did not find in Mr. Robinson some "Great Mogul from out of the West," but we were soon acquainted with a plain, practical man, just the kind that makes big poultry papers. Swelled-head journalism has seen its day, and the people today want honest service from practical men. If Mr. Robinson keeps up the good work he has begun on *Farm-Poultry*—and there is every reason to believe he will—he shall gain a reputation second to none in the field.

\*\*\*

Poultry- The firm of I. S. Johnson Craft. & Co., Boston, have just issued a text book for poultry keepers, under the title of "Poultry Craft," written and compiled by John H. Robinson. The book contains 272 pages of valuable information, giving 392 classified items of instruction. Nothing is strung out to fill up space, but every item is condensed, classified, and put in such shape that the reader can at once look up the information desired. The book is fully illustrated and handsomely bound, making it both useful and ornamental. The features of the work are "Poultry Houses and Yards," "Poultry Fixtures," "Fowls Described," "Foods and Feeding," "Science in Poultry Feeding," "Egg Production," "Hatching and Rearing Chicks," Diseases, etc. It will be sent, postpaid, for \$2, or with *Farm-Poultry* and A FEW HENS, each one year, for \$2.50.

\*\*\*

Advertising Mrs. S. Rider, Mary- Paid. land, N. Y., writes,

after an experience in advertising in A FEW HENS: "Have had calls for about 200 birds this Fall. I hope to patronize you in advertising eggs for hatching in spring again, as I got good returns from my advertisement."

W. R. Curtiss & Co., proprietors of the Niagara Farm, Ransomville, N. Y., write: "For much of our good success this season, we are pleased to thank A FEW HENS. As an advertising medium only one other paper was as good—and these two were about even."

\*\*\*

A Woman's A lady subscriber living Scheme. in Waban, Mass., writes: "I am interested in A FEW HENS and the poultry



business in general, and it has occurred to me, why should not an earnest enterprising woman, willing to work, succeed in business of hatching chickens to sell. Nothing would be required except a building for her incubators, in which she could live and conduct her business all under one roof, buying eggs to hatch and selling her chicks to be raised on a farm. I believe a supply would create a demand, and the business succeed on the principle that a division of labor on any article reduces the cost."

It is not perfectly clear to us just what is intended. If to sell the chicks to some one who will take chances in raising and marketing them, it may work well enough. But to hand them over to some one else to raise and market, the money to be divided, there would be no end to trouble. We really do not like such partnership concerns.

Another risk would be in buying eggs to incubate. It was a plan thoroughly tried in Hammonton, and caused more failures than anything else. The very best way to run the business is to raise your own eggs, hatch the chicks and grow them all on the same plant, under the same care.

\* \*

Good Work. The following may sound like a "free advertisement," but such is not intended. We wish merely to show how from a small start a plant can be built, and the man or woman that starts in that way, has a better chance for success than those that make a sudden jump. We like to see poultry farms grow gradually, for it gives a better chance for observation, and one is in a better condition to properly manage affairs.

J. C. Budd, Chatham, N. J., last January purchased a pen of Light Brahmas from us. This is what he wrote:

"From the six pullets and cockerel I bought of you January 25th, 1899, I have had what I call 'good luck,' although one of the hens died before I got an egg from her, and the male bird choked to death trying to crow with a mouthful of corn, shortly after the chicks were all hatched.

"From the remaining five hens I hatched 90 chicks and raised 80. I commenced hatching on the 9th of April, and the last hatch came off June 10th.

"At six months they averaged in weight six pounds each, and now the five cockerels from the first hatch weigh seven pounds each, and are not through growing yet, as I can almost see them grow from day to day.

"I have never seen a sign of sickness among them, and all who have seen them say they are the handsomest flock of fowls they have ever seen. I would like to hear from others who have bought fowls from you, through A FEW HENS, and see if they can beat my record.

"As my five hens have increased from a few to many, so I hope that your valuable A FEW HENS may multiply from month to month."

\* \*

At Phila- As our readers know, A delphia. FEW HENS can spare no space for show records, and that it is not devoted to the fancy.

Consequently the editor is not a frequenter of poultry exhibitions. Yet withal that we are not unmindful of the good influence the show room sends out for the cause in general, and can thank the fanciers for considerable progress made in giving us good breeds.

But last month, in company with the editor of *Farm-Poultry*, we did visit the Philadelphia exhibition. We had a two-fold object: one was to see what would be done in the practical line, and the other to meet many poultrymen we knew. We were more successful in the latter than the former. In the case of the former, the Philadelphia show was a failure. A few dozen of eggs were about all that we could find in the utility line. We were indeed disappointed. With the reputation that Philadelphia has for "Philadelphia" broilers, roasters and capons we expected to find a good representation. It could have been made a feature. It would have been an object lesson for the visiting poultry men and the novices. Illustrations of how to dress and prepare for market, would have been a great attraction, but instead, we had to content ourselves with looking at the prize birds and appliances. The appliances, which included incubators, brooders, poultry feeds, and the Cuckoo trap nest, made up a neat and attractive display. In this respect the Prairie State, the Star, the Pineland, and the Cyphers incubators and brooders, with the usual attraction of young chicks, seemed to lead. In the incubator line, one of the features was the Prairie State's 50-egg machine. It is a miniature Prairie State, built upon the same plan of the larger makes, and just as full of business. At a glance

it could be seen that it was no toy, but a reliable hatcher for those who have a limited number of eggs to incubate.

The Cuckoo trap nest was represented by one of the Dunlap Co., who not only had one of the nests on exhibition, but fully explained the working of the same.

In poultry feeds, the H-O Company had a large supply, with a man "full of business" in charge. J. E. White was kept busy in explaining the merits of the Woodhid Farm cut clover hay.

The general quality of the poultry shown was very good, and this went far to make up for the lack of quantity. The American class seemed the best, as far as numbers went.

**\$5** buys three Barred Rock hens and cockerel. E. R. REID, Nordhoff, N. J.

**BARRED P. Rocks, White Wyandottes.** Pedigreed from leading strains. I breed them for business, beauty and profit. Cockerels \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00. Are sold cheap. E. W. HARRIS, North Acton, Mass.

**BIG MAIL for Poultrymen.** For 10 cts. we will insert your name in our poultry Directory, which will bring you hundreds of sample copies of poultry papers, incubator and poultry supply catalogues, etc., etc. **POULTRY DIRECTORY CO.,** Department 4, Box 763, Goshen, Ind.

**1200 CHOICE POULTRY.** All pigeons and the mammoth German hares cheap. All described in a natural colored descriptive 60 p. book, 10c. J. A. Bergey, Telford, Pa.

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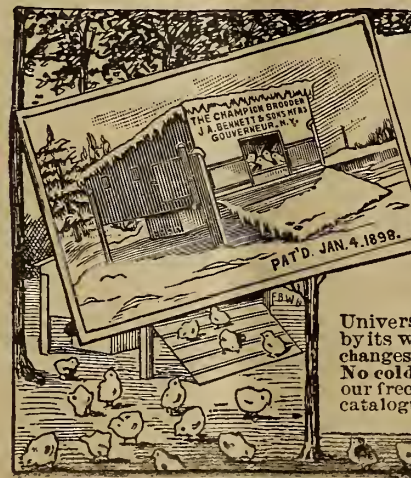
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Don't let the chicks die after you have gone to the trouble and expense of hatching them. They'll live and grow if you put them in the

**\$5 CHAMPION BROODER.**

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The usual force of judges, editors, and poultrymen were on hand. Among those we met were Judges Nevius, Bright, Northup; editors Drevenstedt, Valentine, Howard and Robinson; poultrymen W. H. Welsh, Dr. Beckett, Aug. D. Arnold, A. A. Gery, D. A. Mount, M. B. Blauch, Rackham, and a score or more of prominent persons, and we must not forget Cooper, of the Prairie State, Bache, of the Star, and Smith of Pine-land incubator fame.

In short, we want to say, for sociability and for the furtherance of the fancy, the Philadelphia exhibition was a success. From a practical standpoint it was a dismal failure. What little help the utility cause received came from the incubator and supply men. Can we hope for more encouragement next year?

\*\*\*

Visit to Wayne. While on the visit to the Philadelphia show, we accepted the kind invitation of William H. Welsh, to accompany him home to Wayne, (about 14 miles outside of Philadelphia). Mr. Welsh is an old-timer. He started in the breeding of thoroughbred poultry about 20 years ago, testing Barred Plymouth Rocks, Dorkings and Silver Wyandottes in turn. The last named is the one he now handles, and which he believes is the "most practical bird on earth." Mr. Welsh's flock is not a large one, but it is good throughout. He aims to improve it each year, and never loses sight of the fact that the egg record must be foremost. Mr. Welsh has no stock for sale now, but it will be well for our readers to keep him in mind for eggs for hatching in Spring.

While in Wayne we also visited the plant of Geo. Park, where we saw some excellent White Wyandottes, Buff Plymouth Rocks and Barred Rocks. But Mr. Park is about disposing of all but the White Wyandottes, which he prefers. His stock are of the large, blocky build, and he reports them as grand layers. Mr. Park will also advertise eggs for hatching in Spring.

\*\*\*

Fowl Breeding. There is an art in properly mating poultry. The haphazard arrangement adopted by so many beginners, is almost always sure to breed discontent and disease. It is just as important to properly mate for eggs and meat as it is for fancy points. It is true that the marketman adopts a different system in his work than does the fancier, but the same general care in both cases is necessary.

We have just come across a work published by Geo. P. Burnham, in 1876, that gives some excellent hints on the subject of breeding, that cannot be improved upon even in this age of advancement.

Mr. Burnham says the more distant the actual relationship is the better; since the progeny from birds bred too closely, in this respect, rarely prove so satisfactory as those obtained from stock (of both sexes) *not* merely allied in kin.

He says a chief secret in the production of the most uniformly good chicks, from any parentage, lies in securing a reliable sire, and in breeding such a two-year old male bird upon one-year

old pullets. Two-year old fowls of both sexes bred together, give us very good younglings. But he found that vigorous 12 months' old pullets bred to a good cock in his full second year, will throw better chickens on the average than others—all things else being equal.

In choosing your sire, it should be done with a view to reproducing his superior form, stamina and color—whatever these may be—in the variety selected. The cock must possess these indicated qualities, in full vigor and beauty. Such male bird should be a good one, and he should be known to come from a reliable bird like himself.

For your hens, look for good layers, of generous size, color even and pure, of stout constitution and symmetrical form. From among their product select the best pointed and most perfect in general characteristics, for future breeding, and you will be largely successful, as a rule, in the end.

The first one or two litters of eggs laid by pullets are not so serviceable, so sure, or so profitable for hatching, as are their later product. And the eggs of 2-year old hens, bred to a year old cock, have proved very generally successful. Mr. Burnham says he is quite satisfied that the most reliable breeding birds that can be mated together, as to age, are those of one sex or the other that are a year the oldest.

Two cocks, in breeding time, should never be kept with your hens in the same enclosure, whatever their age or their variety. The frequent contentious attention of two males to the hens or pullets (even if the cocks do not quarrel with each other), not only annoys the females, but it absolutely injures them.



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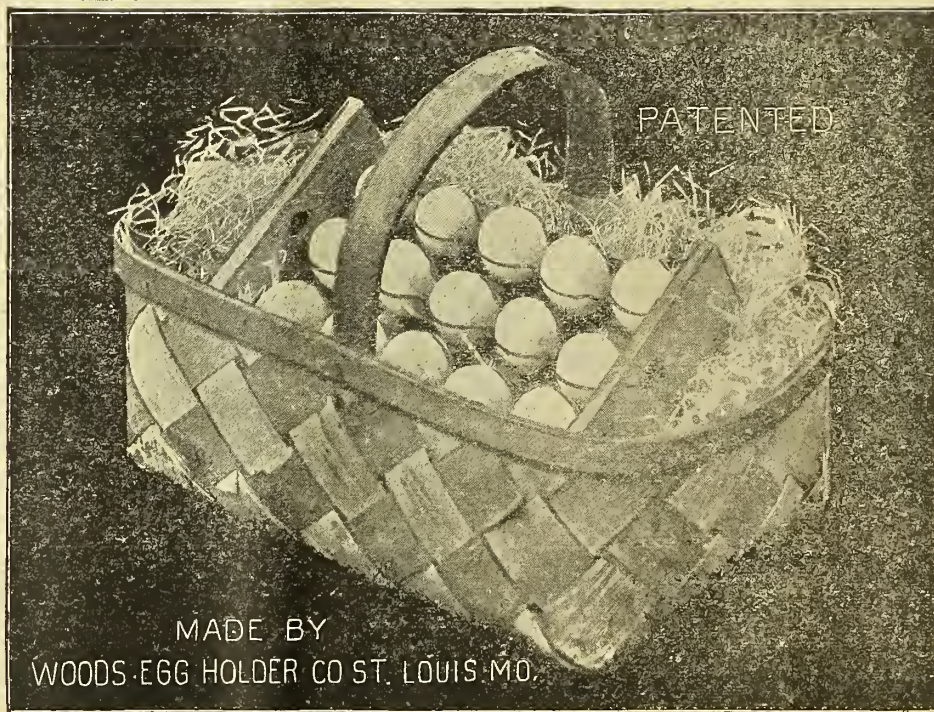
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It requires **no moisture**. Positive directions for ventilation, regardless of location. Stronger chicks and more of them the result.

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**CYPHER'S INCUBATORS,**  
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**CLOVER MEAL,**

and all the rest. Don't buy any of these things until you get our fine illustrated catalogue of **POULTRY SUPPLIES**, and if wanted in quantity, our special prices by letter.

**JOHNSON & STOKES,**

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**ROUP** positively cured by Vivine Roup Tablets; price 75c., sample size, 30c. Send price and receive package by return mail. VIVINE CHEM. CO., 9 1-2 Appleton St., Boston, Mass.

**FOR SALE.** S. C. W. Leghorn cockerels \$1.00. (Wyckoff & Rice strain). Spring Brook Poultry Farm, F. Haskins, South Cortland, N. Y.

## S. C. Wh. Leghorns

Cockerels, \$1.50 each. Yearling hens, \$2.00 each. Grand layers. Michael K. Boyer, Hammonton, N. J.

**AVERAGE RECORD**  
**OF 180 EGGS FROM**

## White Wyandottes

EGGS \$1.50 PER SITTING.

C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.



And half the time this prevents the proper fertilization of the eggs you are desirous to hatch from this chosen stock.

One male with 8 or 10 hens will furnish you more certainly and regularly with impregnated eggs than you can obtain from a larger number, as a rule. Yet, if you desire to breed from two cocks to such hens, the two males should be of the same variety, and of equally good quality; and each may be placed with the hens upon alternate days or weeks, during the season, to advantage. That is to say, with 16 or 20 hens and pullets, kept by themselves, half in separate pens, the two cocks may be exchanged from week to week, from one pen to the other. While we like that plan well enough, we feel that the one adopted on the experimental farm of A FEW HENS is better. Instead of having two yards and two cocks, and merely change from one pen to the other, we prefer having three cocks for every two pens, and alternate each night, thus giving each male bird a rest of a day out of every three. It keeps them in better vigor, and there is a stronger fertilization of eggs.

A "hump-backed" bird, or one carrying a "wry tail," showing foul feathers, a hatchet-shaped breast, with over long legs, deformed comb or beak, a "hollow back," or weak hock-joints, should never be used to breed from. These infirmities, says Mr. Burnham, visible to the eye always, are transmissible to the progeny; and from such fowls good uniform chicks can never be reproduced.

The male should not be over-sized. In Brahmas, for instance, a 14 or 15 pound cock is never a good breeder. And however much the novice may admire these stalwart specimens, to look at, he should never undertake to breed such a bird, with the expectation of reproducing his like with average-sized hens or pullets.

The term "blood" or "blooded" animal, or fowl, has no meaning as applicable particularly to the natural crimson fluid that courses through the veins of the body, says Mr. Burnham. When we speak of a "blooded horse," for instance, we allude to the fact that his pedigree is good, and his origin may be traced back to an Arab sire, or Barb, for example.

A pure "blooded" bull, or ram, is simply one of a clearly distinct variety or "strain"—inheriting from prime original stock, fixed and peculiar characteristics in style, form and stamina, which they can and do transmit to their progeny, in a similar marked degree. Thus with poultry. They are pure "blooded" when coming from a known established sire, or variety and breed closely like the originals; as the Games, Brahmas, Cochins, etc.

The following extracts from Mr. Burnham's book are both interesting and instructive:

"It frequently happens that a vigorous Cochin or Light Brahma cock, introduced into the common farm yard, will so stamp his image upon the chicks that result from this introduction of fresh blood, that the first cocks raised from this union will show all the char-

acteristics of the foreign male bird so fully developed as to make them appear genuine Cochins or Brahmas, to the experienced eye.

"But breed these chickens together, subsequently, and their progeny will 'throw back' to the original barn-yard parentage so suddenly, that the source of their parents' origin will be very palpable to the most ordinary observer; and this, too, every time.

"If the farmer or poulterer who raises stock for eggs and market supply only, desires to improve his common dunghill flocks, he can do this with great certainty by introducing to his hens young 'blooded' cocks of the Dorking, Brahma, Cochin, Dominique or Leghorn varieties, and generally to grand advantage.

"It is possible that hens thus crossed, upon being again bred steadily to a cock of their own color and variety, may throw good chickens, mostly. But they can never be depended on for purity, after such contamination. And this point we have incontestibly proved, by many an experiment—to our cost, in past years.

"We always advise novices in poultry breeding to begin with one pure variety only. Cultivate this thoroughly, before trying another or more breeds. And this mode will invariably prove the most instructive and most satisfactory.

"When we commenced this work, 35 years ago, we did as many have done

**WANTED:** Situation on poultry farm by married man; no children; four years' experience. A 1 references. Address V. B., care Farm-Poultry.

**WH. PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**  
Cockerels, \$2.00. Hens and pullets, \$2.00 each. Fine bodied and excellent laying qualities.  
MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

**PROGRESS NEST BOX** is cheap, simple, sure, easily taken apart, cleaned and set up. Two sizes, in flat, 3 x 13 x 15, or 3 x 15 x 20. One, \$1; six, \$4.50; twelve, \$7. E. W. VAN FLEET, Galena, O.

**20 GOOD WHITE WYANDOTTES** at \$1.25 each, or \$1.00 in lots of ten or more. Box 231, Penns Grove, N. J.

**Mr. Boyer says Kulp**  
and his stock is all right. The finest of layers and feathers. Can prove it. Barred and White Rocks (Thompson & Bradley), White Wyandottes (Duston), S. and Rose Comb Brown Leghorns (Kulp's), second to none, White Leghorns, Bl. Minorcas, Bl. Langshans, Big Pekin Ducks, Belgian Hares. Circular. W. W. KULP, Box 10, Pottstown, Pa.

**GREAT Layers;** large eggs. White Leghorns, Light Brahmas. Extra choice c'k'ls. Yearling hens. \$1, \$2, \$3. C. B. TRAVIS, Brighton, Mass.

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**The Egg Basket**

will be full to overflowing winter and summer if you feed the hens on green cut bone.

**THE ADAM GREEN BONE CUTTER**

prepares bone in the best way because it is the best bone cutter. It runs easiest because it is the only bone cutter made having ball bearings. So constructed that it can't choke on bone, meat or gristle. Cleans itself. Cuts on the shear plate plan—leaves a fine shaving of bone easily consumed by chick or fowl. It makes money for the hen man or for the broiler man. Catalogue No. 1 free.

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**OUR NEW PREMIER... INCUBATOR**

Not One Cent to be paid until tried.

Any responsible person can get our machine on trial and send money after trial. Get it, put it in competition with any other machine made. Descriptive catalogue mailed for 5c.

**Merits**

- A child can run it. AUTOMATIC.
- Five minutes attention a day will run it.
- Ten cents worth of oil will make a hatch.
- No expensive buildings needed for it.
- Can be run under a shed, attic roof or anywhere out of rain and wind.

**Diplomas and Medals**

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Can be run with or without moisture.

**SET OF PLANS FOR POULTRY HOUSES, 25c.**

We are also Exclusive Manufacturers of the Von Culin Simplicity and Columbia incubators.

**COLUMBIA INCUBATOR CO.,**  
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since. We had at the start half a dozen kinds of fowls upon our premises. Within two or three years we had a dozen varieties—such as they were. Then came the Cochins, the Shanghaes, the Brahmapiootras, so called, the Plymouth Rocks (which we exhibited in Boston in 1849), and then the Cochins (or Shanghaes) of all colors. These were bred by themselves or together, for some years, as everybody in those days bred fowls. And a 'motley crew' we had around us in 1848.

"But when the Gray Shanghaes—thoroughbred from the start—came into our hands, from which superb native Chinese stock have descended the noble Light and Dark Brahmas of later days, we began to cultivate them in their purity, and subsequently bred them thus for many years, to profit and great satisfaction.

"A vigorous, thoroughbred cock will impress his chief characteristics upon the progeny of lens of almost any color, in the first brood produced from such connection. But the chickens are mongrels, nevertheless. I have seen fairly pointed and good colored Light Brahma chickens produced from a full bred Light Brahma rooster, mated to a flock of common variously-colored barn-yard hens. In the second year afterwards, the chickens coming from eggs laid by the pullets of this cross were like Jacob's coat—of many colors; and no two of either sex were at all alike. There was nothing thoroughbred in this process or product, of course—and in the nature of things, there could not be.

"The poultry cultivator of our time should have a clearly defined aim in view, at the beginning; and if he acquire some knowledge of the true principles of breeding fowls, before he embarks too largely to invest or strike out for results, he will be the gainer in the end; and he may save time, money and patience, by going forward with his work understandingly—as far as may be.

"To produce thoroughbred fowls, then, the leading secret of the formula is to procure and cultivate only the best of the variety we choose to favor; and never to mix or amalgamate these with any other variety, while we wish to have the product coming from them 'pure'—bearing constantly in mind this patent fact; that when a fowl (or animal) of any fixed breed has once been pregnant to another of a different variety and color, that fowl or animal is forever afterwards crossed; and the original purity of its blood is lost, in consequence of its connection with this other breed or variety—as we shall more fully explain in our subsequent pages."

**FOR SALE**, 1 pen Pekin ducks, Pollard's, one-half cost. C. B. FISHER, Waquoit, Mass.

**LIGHT BRAHMA PULLETS**, \$1.00 each; six for \$5. **WOODWARD M. POFFENBERGER**, Bakersville, Washington County, Maryland.

**American Trap Nest Box** Picks out the business hen, and will prevent and cure egg eating. Plans \$1.00. Circulars. J. H. WOODHEAD, Box 226, Leicester, Mass.

**BARRED and BUFF P. ROCKS, BUFF Cochins, Wh. Wyandottes and Houdans.** Large, vigorous cockerels bred from prolific layers, \$2 up. Year-old cocks, \$2, \$3. Few year-old hens. 200-egg hot water Reliable incubator, good order, low. W. H. SCOVIL, Box S, East Lebanon, Maine.

**M. E. S. Trap Nest.** Plain, practical, accurate. 75c., two \$1.40, three \$2. No paint or varnish. Satisfaction or money back. G. J. Ritter, Park Ridge, N. J.

### Poultry at the U. S. Stations—Continued.

The following table shows the number of eggs produced, per hen, and the cost for food:

Black Minorca pullets,	43.31	37.87
S. C. Brown Leghorn pullets,	77.43	29.21
" hens (2 yrs. old)	67.	38.91
Barred Ply. Rock pullets,	79.87	59.32
" hens (2 yrs. old)	59.11	72.33
" hens (coming 2 yrs. old),	81.54	53.4
White Ply. Rock pullets,	64.13	55.4
Silver Wyandotte pullets,	80.21	39.75
White Wyandotte pullets,	70.2	37.14
" hens,	40.57	49.35
Buff Cochins pullets,	17.76	18.39
(This record is for 2 3-5 months).		
Buff Cochins hens,	58.2	64.00
Black Langshan pullets,	88.2	53.41
" hens (2 yrs. old),	72.07	66.12
Light Brahma pullets,	102.06	56.99
" hens (aged or unknown),	30.56	61.18

Light Brahmas and Barred Plymouth Rocks have lost apparently from single birds becoming overfat in yards where others have not maintained standard weights.

Buff Cochins pullet yard was broken up by the number of deaths, and the sudden death of the cock in that yard. After April 19th the remaining pullets were added to the remaining hens, and the record continued as Buff Cochins hens.

The White Plymouth Rock pullets have shared their large yard with ducks.

### Nothing Under the Sun

will Make Hens Lay and keep them in healthy condition all the year round, like

### BANNER EGG FOOD and Tonic.

Thousands can testify to its excellent merits. A trial will convince you. 1 lb. can 25c., by mail 40c.; 5 cans \$1.00, on board express N. Y. City. If you want fresh eggs, and plenty of them, use this food as directed, and your hens must lay. Our Immense Catalogue free.

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28 Vesey Street, New York City.  
W. V. RUSS, Proprietor.

When writing kindly mention this paper.

**1776 POULTRY FARM**, Warner, N. H. W. Wyandottes, R. I. Reds. Standard bred. Wonderful layers of large brown eggs. Vigorous, blocky built, farm-raised beauties. Stock \$1.00 to \$3.00 each. Write your wants.

**WHITE Wyandotte, B. P. Rock and Black Minorca cockerels** that are right. Let me know just what you want. I will make the price right and give price back if not as represented. Bred from best strains only. Would exchange cockerels for pullets of same breeds and merit. E. P. Elitharp, Watertown, N. Y.

### Light BRAHMA Cockerels

From excellent laying stock. Finely marked. Big bargains at \$2.00 each. No females for sale. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammononton, N. J.

This yard is without trees, hence there are less insects in it, and they are in a measure set back by this environment. The Black Minorca pullets have had a rather restricted range, as have also the Silver Wyandotte pullets, and to a much less degree both White Wyandotte pullets and hens.

With these exceptions the comparisons seem fair to all breeds and yards. There is, however, a seeming excessive cost for food to Light Brahma pullets, yet it does not appear to be wrong, though there might be an overcharge there.

A few selected, nicely Barred, good size and shape

### BARRED ROCK Cockerels

Bred from male from A. C. Hawkins, \$2. Two yearling cocks, two pens Pekin Ducks. Something fine. \$2. guaranteed. Write. C. C. Shorb, McDaniel, Md.

### CURTAINS

For Scratching Sheds. Waterproof Sheeting Made up any size, 3 cts. square foot. Not made up, 20 cts. square yard.

C. N. TILLOTSON, 361 B'way, N. Y.

### ROSE COMB LEGHORNS.

I have a few good breeding cockerels, Brown or White Leghorn, at \$2.00 each. A few one-year old White Leghorn hens, at \$1.00, to close them out. C. H. CLARK, Cobalt, Conn.

### STROUD'S WYANDOTTES

Standard points proven at Philadelphia show. Won on cockerel; also first and second on eggs. My White Wyandottes are always selected from my best layers of brown eggs. Have a few splendid breeding cockerels from this stock which I will sell at reasonable prices, considering their quality.

WM. F. STROUD, Merchantville, N. J.

### \$2.00 for \$1.00 Barred Ply. Rocks White Wyandottes

We want money, and if you want good stock at a low price, place your order with us. Well marked males, suitable for standard breeding, for only \$3.00. Same in females, \$2.00. Never had a bird returned, although we always stand ready to refund purchase money, and pay return charges on unsatisfactory stock. Circular.

Reference, Bank of Wyalusing, Wyalusing, Pa. MILES BROS., Spring Hill, Pa.

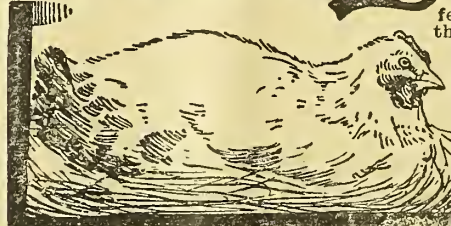
### THERE IS ONLY one best among Nest Boxes and that is

### The Cuckoo Nest Box

Write for circular to

THE DUNLAP SUPPLY CO., Yardley, Pa.

### Let The Hens Lay



### but Hatch Chickens by Steam

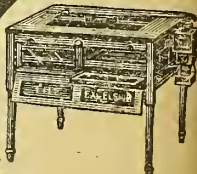
The best, surest and most economical method of hatching is with the

### EXCELSIOR Incubator

Simple, yet thoroughly durable; absolutely regulates itself. Hatches the greatest proportion of fertile eggs at the least expense. Costs less than any other first-class hatching machine.

The **Wooden Hen**—for 50 eggs—is the most perfectly automatic, self-regulating, small incubator ever made. Write for incubator book and information—free.

CEO. H. STAHL,  
114-122 S. 6th St.,  
Quincy, Ill.





The considerable number of fowls handled, and several changes having necessarily been made in assistants in charge of the work of feeding and moving fowls, make it impossible to affirm accuracy in the minute details.

**Recapitulation:** Number of eggs per month, per hen:

American Class,	11.6
Asiatic Class,	11.3
Mediterranean Class,	11.04

**Lowest monthly cost of production:**

Mediterranean Class,	6.24 cents.
American Class,	8.94 cents.
Asiatic Class,	10.68 cents.

**Highest gain in value of eggs above value of food to yards:**

(a) based on number of eggs at 13 1-2 cents per dozen; (b) based on same price and weight of 17.5 ounces equivalent to a dozen.

(a) Mediterranean Class,	87.50 per cent.
American Class,	38.26 per cent.
Asiatic Class,	11.05 per cent.

This results from the difference in the cost of food as well as in the number of eggs.

(b) Mediterranean Class,	147.12
American Class,	199.35
Asiatic Class,	168.35

That is if Brown Leghorn pullet eggs are worth 13 1-2 cents per dozen for 17.5 ounces, then are Brown Leghorn hen eggs worth 16.3 cents and Black Minorca pullets eggs 19.9 cents. The average monthly product of this Mediterranean Class, becomes, therefore, 15.92 cents for 20.64 ounces of eggs produced at a cost of 6.24 cents, which is 147.12 per cent. above cost of food.

By the same method the eggs produced per month by the average hen or pullet in the American Class is found to be worth 17.83 cents for 23.11 ounces of eggs.

The per cent. of gain above cost of food 8.94 cents is 99.44.

The eggs produced by the average hen of the Asiatic Class is found to be worth by the same rates 17.98 cents per month for a cost of 10.68 cents, which is 68.35 per cent. above the cost for food.

### Save Money and Get the Best.

The best offer for practical poultrymen ever made is the following:

Farm-Poultry, semi-monthly, the best and most advanced poultry journal of the age, one dollar a year. Poultry Keeper, printed in colors, edited by P. H. Jacobs, the encyclopedia of practical poultry breeding, published monthly, fifty cents a year. The Inter-State Poultryman, plain, practical, progressive. It gives spice and variety by maintaining entertaining and instructive pet stock and women's departments, fifty cents a year. A Few Hens, by Boyer, who knows how to boil down poultry knowledge and get the facts in a few words, monthly, twenty-five cts. a year. These four journals give you all you want to know about poultry and pet stock, and will teach you how to find money in your hen house and rabbitries. To place them within the reach of all, we will send all four one year to any address for the small sum of \$1.15. You save one dollar and ten cents and get the best. Address, I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

**EGGS. UTILITY. MEAT.**  
**WHITE WYANDOTTES,**  
Fine, large, vigorous cockerels, \$1.50 to \$2.50 each.  
Write me your wants. Satisfaction guaranteed,  
E. G. GARBNER, Bellville, Ohio.

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**MAKE A HEN COMFORTABLE AND SHE PAYS.**

We carry a full line of everything needful in the poultry yard and hen house. All improved foods, grits, insecticides, medicines, &c. All improved appliances—Incubators, Bone Cutters, Clover Cutters, Vegetable Cutters, Drinking Fountains, &c.

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the great winter food, made from best second crop clover, all ready to feed, \$1.75 per 100 lb. sack. Write for what you want. We have it. Large Catalogue Free.

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The Sanitary Poultry Drinking Fountain

**"D"** Crushed Oyster Shells, Crushed Flint, Calcite, Ground Brick, Ground Beef Scraps, Meat Meal, Granulated Bone, Bone Meal.

Send for samples and price-list  
**American Poultry Food Co.,**  
Box 943, York, Pa.

**WHITE LECHORNS.**  
My stock is bred for heavy laying as well as for beauty. April-hatched cockerels, \$1.50 each.  
G. E. CHALFANT, Hammonton, N. J.

**ONE HUNDRED**  
choice breeding Cockerels, bred for business, not for show. W. Wyandottes, Barred P. Rocks, Buff P. Rocks, at \$1.50 to \$2.00 each. Wyckoff's strain S. C. W. Leghorns at \$1.00 to \$1.50 each.  
W. M. RAWSON, North New Salem, Mass.

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Being interested in the breeding and rearing of poultry, you should be interested in a paper which teaches orthodox poultry truth.

**Poultry Topics**

does this in a clear, forcible and convincing manner. Send us your name and address plainly written on a postal card, and we will send you the paper **one month free**. You will then see and know its good qualities. It will pay you.

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## They Succeed Best

in keeping poultry for profit, who study cause and effect carefully. Many successful Poultry-raisers have learned by experience that the cause of a very bountiful supply of eggs in the fall and winter, when prices rule high is, proper care, feeding and management, which they have learned by experience includes the use in the mash food, once daily,

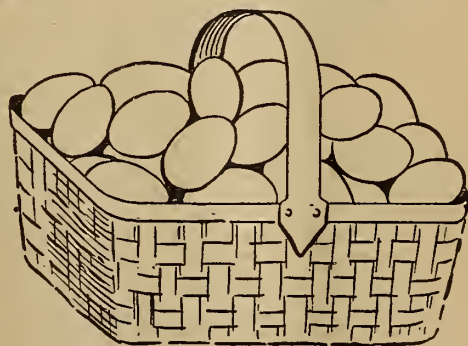
## Sheridan's Condition Powder.

It helps to mature the young pullets early so they will lay when five or six months of age.

# CAUSE AND EFFECT

No matter what kind of foods you use, Sheridan's Powder is absolutely necessary to **cause** the desired **effect** namely, a well filled basket of eggs daily. It gets old hens over molting period quickly; it develops to laying maturity the young pullets. It **causes** perfect assimilation of the food elements needed to **effect** growth, prevent disease and produce eggs.

**NOTHING ON EARTH WILL MAKE HENS LAY LIKE SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER**



It is absolutely pure; Highly concentrated; Most economical, because such small doses; No other kind made like it. In quantity it costs less than one-tenth cent a day per hen.

Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers, or sent by mail. Large cans most economical to buy.  
**IF YOU CAN'T GET IT NEAR HOME, SEND TO US. ASK FIRST.**  
We send one pack, 25 cts; five, \$1.00. A two-pound can, \$1.20; Six, \$5.00. Express paid. Sample copy "best Poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.



## Our Market Report.

*An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of November—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.*

## NEW YORK.

*Furnished A FEW HENS by Dulany & Branin, 41 Hewitt Avenue, New York City.*

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh eggs.....	26	22	24
Philada. Roasting Chickens, 18	15	16	1-2
Broilers.....	20	18	19
Fowls.....	13	12	12 1-2
Ducks.....	14	13	13 1-2
Turkeys, spring, fancy ....	18	15	16 1-3

## PHILADELPHIA.

*Furnished A FEW HENS by Philip Quigley, 303 South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa.*

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh Eggs.....	24	21	22 1-2
Hens, live.....	10	8 1-2	9 1-4
Hens, dressed .....	11	9	10 1-4
Roasting Chickens, live....	10	8	9
Roasting Chickens, dressed	13	10	11 1-2
Old Roosters, live.....	7	7	7
Old Roosters, dressed .....	7 1-2	7	7 1-4
Geese, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Geese, dressed .....	10	8	9
Ducks, live.....	10	9	9 2-3
Ducks, dressed .....	10	8	9
Turkeys, live.....	11	9	10
Turkeys, dressed .....	14	10	12

## BOSTON.

*Furnished A FEW HENS by Bennett, Rand & Co., 20 North Market St., Boston, Mass.*

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, nearby and Cape ....	35	30	32 1-3
Eggs, Eastern, .....	25	23	24
Eggs, Vt. and N. H.....	25	23	24
Eggs, West'n, selected fresh	21	20	20 1-2
Eggs, refrigerator .....	17	16	16 2-3
NORTHERN and EASTERN.			
Chickens, dressed.....	16	14	15
Chickens, live.....	9	9 1-2	9 1-4
Fowls, dressed .....	13	12	12 1-2
Fowls, live.....	9	9 1-2	9 1-4
Roosters, live.....	6	6	6
Broilers, nearby.....	13	13	13
Ducks, dressed .....	14	12	13
Turkeys, young.....	18	15	16 1-2
Geese, dressed .....	12	12	12
WESTERN.			
Turkeys, .....	13	10	11 3-5
Turkeys, old toms.....	12	11	11 1-2
Broilers.....	11 1-2	11	11 1-4
Fowls.....	11	9 1-2	10 1-4
Old cocks .....	7	7	7
Chickens, roasting .....	11 1-2	10	11
Geese.....	11	11	11

## CHICAGO.

*Furnished A FEW HENS by the Sprague Commission Co., 218 So. Water St., Chicago, Ill.*

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, fresh.....	16 1-2	14	15 1-2
Chickens, hens, scalded....	8	6 1-2	7 1-3
Chickens, hens, alive.....	7 1-2	5 1-2	6 2-3
Spring chickens, scalded..	9 1-2	7	8 1-5
Spring chickens, live.....	8 1-2	6 1-2	7 1-2
Roosters, live.....	5	4 1-2	4 3-4
Roosters, dressed .....	5 1-2	5	5 1-4
Ducks, live, old .....	8	6	7 1-4
Ducks, live, spring .....	8	6	7 1-4
Ducks, dressed, old.....	9	8	8 2-3
Ducks, dressed, spring....	8 1-2	8 1-2	8 1-2
Geese, live, per dozen.....	\$6.00	\$5.50	\$5.68
Geese, dressed, old.....	7	7	7
Geese, dressed, spring....	8	8	8
Turkey hens, dressed: ....	10	8 1-2	9 1-2
Turkey gobblers, live.....			
Turkey hens, live.....	10	7 1-2	8 4-5
Turkey gobblers, young..			
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	9	9	9

**BLACK MINORCAS** bred for 10 years for heavy layers. Fine cockerels at \$2. Mrs. GEO. E. MONROE, Dryden, N. Y. Member Black Minorca Club.

**FOR SALE** One Reliable hot water Incubator, 200-egg size; one Reliable hot air Brooder, both good as new; cost \$40.00, will sell for \$22.00 cash, f. o. b. REUBEN H. LOVELAND, Lamar, Pa.

**White Wyandotte Cockerels** Bred for broiler and egg producing qualities, \$2.00 each. No females for sale. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

**Tilton's Power Job Print,** NORTHWOOD RIDGE, N. H.

Envelopes, Packet Heads, Cards, 50 cts. per 100, post-paid. Tags 40 cts. per 100. Send stamp for samples and prices of other work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

## BUFF Plymouth Rocks.

Another year's trial proves them to be America's most popular fowl. We have bred them for years, and have the very best stock, winning at Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus. Our cockerels are extra heavy. Price \$2.00 to \$5.00 each. Incubator eggs \$5 per hundred. O. S. EVANS, Roxbury, Ohio.



**MAKE HENS LAY** when Eggs are high. You can do it. This Priceless Secret of Success with Poultry is fully told in our New Poultry Book which is sent Free as a Premium with our Poultry Paper 3 mo's for 10 cents. Address, W. P. CO., Clintonville, Conn.

## If People only Knew

what strong, vigorous Cockerels and Pullets we have for sale and ready to enter the breeding pen, they surely would buy some. Considering the quality and vigor of the stock, we claim to have as good and cheap as any one. If you are interested in Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Guinea or Chickens, send for my catalogue, it fully describes the 23 varieties I breed. It is now time to inquire about incubator eggs. We can furnish them by the 100 or 1000. Prices quoted on application. D. A. MOUNT, Pine Tree Farm, Jamesburg, N. J.

## SUPPLIES for POULTRY.

50 lb. bag Clover Meal, \$1. 100 lb. bag Pure Beef Scraps, \$2.25. 100 lbs. Meat Meal, \$2.25. 100 lb. bag Mica Crystal Grit, 75 cts. 100 lbs. Oyster Shells, 75 cts. Lambert's Death to Lice, 25 cts. Lee's Lice Killer, 1-2 gal., 50c., 1 gal., 75c. Ground Charcoal, 5c. lb. Greeley's Soup Cure, 25 and 50 cts. Price list for the asking. FRED. F. KELLY, Palmyra, N. Y.

## The TELL TALE

Picks the layers out of any size flock. It needs no attention. Directions for building, 50 cents in silver. J. H. WOODHEAD, Box 226, Leicester, Mass.

## LINDEN POULTRY YARDS

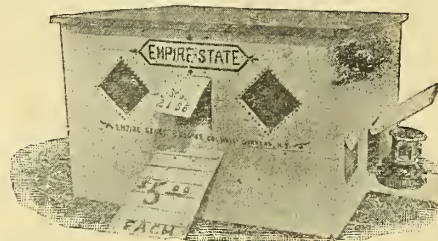
now offer a fine lot of

## Buff Rock and Cochin

youngsters at very reasonable prices. A few off colored Rock and Cochin cockerels and Rock pullets at \$1.00 each; all vigorous and healthy. Nothing better to grade up a flock than one of these cock'ls. Five pullets and cockerel for \$5.00. Have plenty of better ones, and will suit you in price and quality. Send for free circular. C. B. CROWELL, Brattleboro, Vt.

## Poultry Printing

Now is the time to look up your Stationery and Advertising for the winter and spring business. The successful man is the advertiser. We do up-to-date printing at small cost. UNION PRINTING CO., Anthony, R. I.



Empire State Brooders, complete, \$5.00; Summer Queen Brooder Stoves, .90 and \$1; Reliance Brooder Stoves, .65, 1 1-2 in.; Compressed Wicks, for Stoves, per doz., .25; Tested Brooder and Incubator Thermometers, .30 and .40; Crushed Oyster Shells, 500 lbs., in sacks, \$2.50; Oyster Shells by ton or car load to trade, very low. Lice Killing Paint, 1 lb. makes gallon, per lb., .25; Lambert's "Death to Lice," .10, .25, .50, \$1. Best makes Oil Stoves at Half Price. Illustrated Circular 2 cts. Write us.

**EMPIRE STATE BROODER CO.,** Hall's Corners, N. Y.

## People We Know.

*Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.*

The Wooden Hen, manufactured by Geo. H. Stahl, Quincy, Ills., has been the favorite incubator for years with those who do not require to hatch in large lots. While it is only the size of a live hen, the Wooden Hen has four times the capacity. It weighs 40 pounds, hatches 50 eggs and is thoroughly well and durably built in every detail. With a Wooden Hen, boys or owners of small poultry yards can make money hatching young chickens in February and March for the June demand, when prices are highest. The Wooden Hen has been on the market long enough to be thoroughly tested, and has proved its value under all conditions. The little illustrated book, which the maker sends free to anybody, tells all about it. For persons who hatch on a larger scale the Excelsior Incubator is made by Mr. Stahl. It is simple, durable, self-regulating and is guaranteed by the maker to take care of and hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other hatcher. Thousands of these machines are in successful use.



**ENTERPRISE OF THE CYPHERS INCUBATOR CO.** The well-known Cyphers Incubator Co., of Wayland, N. Y., have opened offices and sales-rooms at No. 34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass., for the accommodation of their New England trade, with Mr. Geo. H. Pollard as manager; also at Nos. 323-325 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ills., with Mr. Theo. Hewes in charge of the Company's western interests. Messrs. Pollard and Hewes are widely known as capable and trustworthy poultrymen. Their services hereafter will be at the command of the customers of the Cyphers Company, except that Mr. Hewes will fulfil his December and January judging contracts. After February 1st, he will devote his time and talents solely to the incubator business, taking full charge of the Chicago office of the Cyphers Company. Meantime, Mr. Frank G. Patchin, secretary of the Company, is in personal charge of the Chicago office. The Cyphers incubators and brooders and all other standard poultry appliances manufactured by this Company, are on display at their Boston and Chicago offices, where they can be bought on sight. The Company henceforth will pay transportation charges to the Boston and Chicago distributing depots, and their customers will save both time and money by addressing all correspondence and all orders to the nearest office, Boston, Mass., Chicago, Ills. or Wayland, N. Y.

The Cyphers Company's new poultry manual and catalogue for 1900, entitled "How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators," is profusely illustrated, showing and describing many of the largest poultry plants in the country, and contains over twenty copyrighted articles written expressly for this book by the leading poultry authorities of the world, covering all branches of poultry for profit. This book cost the Cyphers Company over \$4,000. A copy will be mailed to any address on receipt of 15 cents in stamps, this amount to be deducted from the first order of \$1 or more sent to the Company. In other words, this Manual and Poultryman's Guide is meant to be free to all interested persons. Sixteen-page illustrated circulars and price-list sent free. Address nearest office, mentioning this paper. The Cyphers Incubator Co., Wayland, N. Y. 323-325 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ills. 34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.



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For \$1.15. Regular price \$2.25.

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POULTRY KEEPER,	monthly, one year, price,	.50
INTER-STATE POULTRYMAN,	monthly, one year, price,	.50
A FEW HENS,	monthly, one year, price,	.25
Total, - - - -		\$2.25

### PRACTICAL PAPERS PAY POULTRYMEN.

There are None More Practical than the following:

**The Poultry Keeper**, Parkesburg, Pa., that leads the world, because the editor, P. H. Jacobs, is the best informed man of this age on poultry subjects. Its cover, printed in two colors, makes it an ornament to any home, and its contents are none the less attractive, as you can see by sending for a free sample copy. Published monthly, at only 50 cents per year.

**The Inter-State Poultryman**, of Tiffin, Ohio, fifty cents a year, needs no introduction to our readers, its editor being fully abreast of the times. Published monthly.

**A Few Hens**, Boston, Mass., has been increased 50 percent. in size. It is edited by the well-known M. K. Boyer. Full of good things, monthly. 25 cents a year. Devoted to every branch of market poultry culture. It is a "boiled down" journal, giving the cream of poultry matter.

**Farm-Poultry**. This paper is published twice a month, and ranks as one of the best of all poultry papers. It pays practical poultrymen, because it teaches facts, not theories. It is a profitable poultry raising guide for all. Each issue is better than the last. Price, semi-monthly, \$1.00 per year.

## Until Jan., 1901.

If you order at once, you will get **all four** of the papers from now until January 1st, 1901, all for (one dollar and fifteen cents.) - - - - - **\$1.15**

**TAKE NOTICE.** If your time is not out for our paper, your subscription will be marked up one year.

The **four papers** one year, after Jan. 1, 1900, for \$1.15. Send all orders to us. The combination cannot be changed or filled as above, unless all ordered at one time. Samples free.

I. S. JOHNSON & CO.,

22 Custom House Street,

Boston, Mass.



"A substantial article built by a substantial firm" is a phrase that can certainly be applied to the bone cutter manufactured by the F. W. Mann Co., Milford, Mass. The editor of A FEW HENS can vouch both for the goods and the firm, having done business with them for some time. Their bone and clover cutters are built for the business poultrymen, and we feel we are doing our readers a favor by referring them to the advertisement as found in this issue.

Attention is called to the advertisement of the Des Moines Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa, which appears on another page of this paper. They have just issued their 1900 catalogue, which gives detailed statements of the character and class of machines which they are offering for sale. Every machine is illustrated and described in full. In addition to full descriptions and prices of all incubators and brooders which the company make, the book contains also a largely increased quantity of poultry information covering the entire business from start to finish, and giving the results of practical experience to the exclusion of theoretical propositions so common in works of this character. Enclose six cents for it to the Des Moines Incubator Co., Box 23, Des Moines, Iowa.

The H-O Poultry Food is a ration that not only makes eggs but keeps the fowls in proper condition. For growing stock it is an ideal food. We made a number of experiments with it two years ago, and were surprised at the growth made in our young stock. The following testimonials are interesting:

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W. O. Rogers, Norwich, Conn. "I consider the H-O Poultry Feed a very superior food for young chickens after they are one week old, making them grow very fast, and keeping them in a healthy condition. Bringing them to maturity for laying eggs in winter."

## WHITE Wyandottes

### GOLDEN EGG STRAIN.

#### HENS AND COCKS ALL SOLD.

Have sold a lot of cockerels and pullets, but a good number of fine birds left. If you want some Wyandottes that will both please the eye and be very profitable, write me. I have them.

WM. E. SARGENT, Lancaster, Mass.

#### COCKERELS Leg. & Rks. 5 varieties. Cir. Edw. Lafot, Lakefield, Minn.

## I. K. FELCH & SON,

Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes,

—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—

Standard Points and Egg Records Combined. Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

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of every description. Illustrated catalogue free. THE I. F. (SCHOTT CO., Box 194, New Pittsburg, (Wayne County), Ohio.

## Dulany & Branin,

(Successors to Haines & Branin,)

### Commission Merchants,

Philadelphia Poultry; Broilers, Roasters, Fancy Capons, Squabs and Eggs.

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## All for One Dollar!

Profitable Poultry Farming, retail,	-	25	Cents.
A Living From Poultry,	"	25	"
Broilers for Profit,	"	50	"
Farm-Poultry Doctor,	"	50	"
A Few Hens, monthly, one year,	-	25	"
Total,		\$1.75.	

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.,) New Jersey.



**HENS TEETH (Rocky Hill Grit)**  
The best grit known. Does not crumble or go to dust; it's all grit. Every surface cuts and grinds. Better than oyster shells; goes 3 times as far. Club together and get wholesale prices.  
Rocky Hill Grit Wks. Milford, Mass.

One Ton	\$7.00
Half Ton	4.00
100 lbs (1 bag)	.50

## U—WANT—M

Early hatched B. P. Rocks and White Wyandotte cockerels, bred for eggs and meat. Also S. C. W. Leghorn yearlings. C. H. Brooks, Stoneham, Mass.

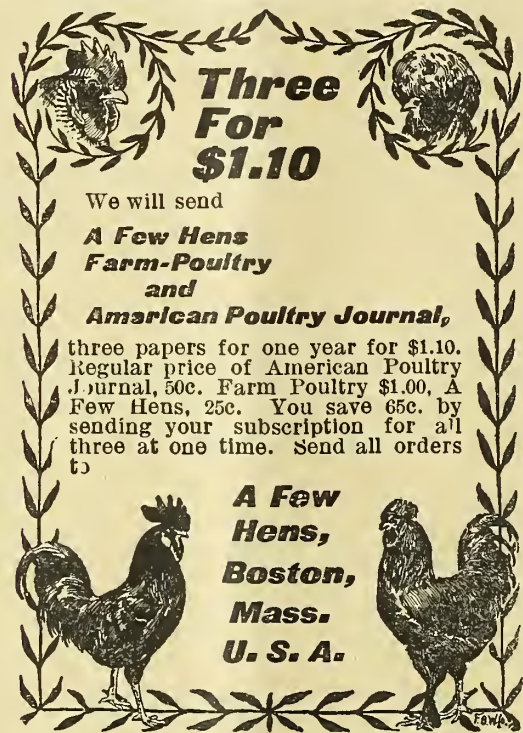
**PURELY BUSINESS BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**  
Strong, practical stock, bred for profit. Excellent layers. Cockerels and pullets \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. E. O. JOSLYN, Hammonton, N. J.

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300 4-page folders FREE to any poultryman who'll use them in correspondence. Adv. of poultry books inside; last page (3x5), your adv. limited to 100 words, you to send 25 cents as part postage. J. W. DARROW, Pub. Poultry Books, Chatham, N. Y.

## BUFF ROCKS

The Best of All-Purpose Fowl. Bargains in old and young stock. Some grand cockerels weigh 6 pounds each now. A few choice Buff Cochins Bantams for sale. For Rocks address N. D. Ford, Medway, N. Y. For Bantams address E. E. Ford, Oak Hill, N. Y.



**Three For \$1.10**  
We will send  
**A Few Hens Farm-Poultry and American Poultry Journal,**  
three papers for one year for \$1.10. Regular price of American Poultry Journal, 50c. Farm Poultry \$1.00, A Few Hens, 25c. You save 65c. by sending your subscription for all three at one time. Send all orders to  
**A Few Hens, Boston, Mass. U. S. A.**

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What are a few dollars invested in a cockerel which, bred to your hens, will increase your egg yield 12 eggs per hen, per year? My **BROWN LEG-HORNS** are bred from heavy layers, and they are fit to be seen in any company. Cockerels going at \$1.50 each in December and January. THOMAS T. OSGOOD, Randolph, N. Y.

## WHITE WYANDOTTES, ONLY.

Entire time given to breeding for eggs and meat. Large, vigorous early cockerels, sired by a 10 1/2 pound cock, mated to 9 pound un. red females.

We have some Beauties for \$2.00.

Eggs from same mating, \$2 per 13.

We will try to please.

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**RHODE ISLAND RED** (dark) and W. W. Cockerels, \$1.50 to \$3.00. Mated Toulouse geese from prize stock, \$5.00. CLARKE & CO., Waquoit, Mass.

The Topside Galah Brooder. Heated by radiation from any incubator with its lamp and boiler at the side and not connecting outwardly with a regulator. Easily made, at trifling cost. Printed directions for One Dollar. Address, MRS. S. G. JOB, Hope Farm, South Walpole, Mass.

## NIAGARA White Wyandottes, Mammoth Pekin Ducks,

Are bred for utility. \$1.50 each. White Holland Turkeys, \$2.00 each. Belgian Hares, \$1.00 each. Green Cut Clover, \$1.50 per 100 lbs., \$7.00 per 500 lbs. Prices to trade. Poultry Supplies. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Kansonville, N. Y. Circulars. Endorsed by Editor Boyer.

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Send stamp for new 64-page Catalogue, containing also

## GRAND SPECIAL OFFER for balance of 1899.

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"The Art of Poultry Breeding." By J. H. Davis. A book which combines the practical and scientific in poultry breeding, and treats the subjects of Out-crossing, In-breeding, Breeding to Feather, Cross-breeding, etc., enabling one to breed intelligently and for profit. 46 pages. Price 25 Cents.

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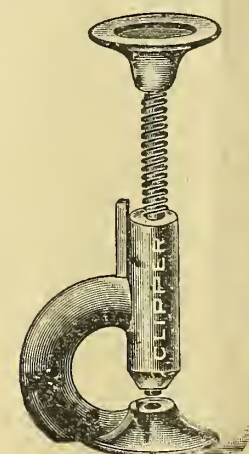
"Pigeon Queries." A book for pigeon fanciers and breeders, written in question and answer form. F. M. Gilbert has written a chapter for this book entitled, "The Pigeon from Shell to Show Room." Oftentimes a single practical answer to a question will be the means of saving a valuable bird. Price 25c.

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With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

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